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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

THE NEW BUDGET.

THE annual balance-sheet of the nation is always a document of curiosity and interest. The Chancellor of the Exchequer made his first estimate early in February, whilst we were still at war, and whilst there was every probability that hostilities would be continued during several campaigns. The peace concluded by diplomacy, on the pressure of France and Austria, rendered it necessary that the Finance Minister should make a second statement. This task was performed by Sir Cornewall Lewis on Monday last. The most sanguine of relief, and the most impatient of fiscalty, could not have anticipated much retrenchment under the circumstances; and few ventured to anticipate any change in the form of raising the revenue. It would have been unreasonable to expect that our expenditure, based on the continuance of war, would cease with the termination of hostilities; for troops have to be brought home, and pending contracts to be completed. Though nominally at peace, the nation has learned by bitter experience the folly of being unarmed and defenceless, whilst all Europe heaves with the throes of past and still present commotions. For these, and other reasons, a Peace Budget was expected by no one.

The following abstract, which we have made as succinct as was possible with lucidity, will show what burdens the people of Great Britain have borne, or have yet to bear, on account of the war. The Chancellor of the Exchequer commenced his statement by observing that the deficiency on the last financial year was £3,560,000, more than covered by the loan of £5,000,000, of which £3,500,000 was received last year, and £1,500,000 in the current year. Connected with that operation was the funding of £3,000,000 of Exchequer Bills, which has been effected.

The expenditure in the past year was	£88,428,000
Revenue	65,705,000
Excess of expenditure over revenue	22,723,000
Add loan to Sardinia	1,000,000
Add redemption of hereditary pensions	213,000
Total excess of Expenditure over Revenue	23,936,000
To cover this, there had been raised in Exchequer Bills and Bonds	£26,478,000, which gave a surplus over the deficiency of £2,542,000.
The total war expenditure in 1854-55 and 1855-56 was	£155,120,000
The total peace expenditure in 1852-53 and 1853-54 was	102,032,000
Difference against war	£53,088,000

The revenue in the two years of war was	£125,200,000
Ditto ditto of peace	108,018,000
Increase during the war	£17,182,000

But to this increase of war revenue, arising from war taxes, must be added:—

Additions to funded and unfunded debt	£33,604,000
Surplus income of two years of peace	5,986,000
	£56,772,000

This aggregate represents the total sum applicable to the War expenditure, over and above the total sum applicable to the Peace expenditure. The estimated expenditure of the present year compared with the expenditure of the two years immediately preceding the peace shows an excess of £24,500,000, which, added to £53,088,000 set down above as "difference against war," gives a total War expenditure of £77,588,000. That, then, is the sum it has cost us to blockade the Baltic during two seasons, and to assist the French in capturing the Malakoff, and the south side of Sebastopol.

From the past we look to the future. In the Budget submitted to the House of Commons before Easter, when immediate peace was not foreseen, were the following items:—

Army estimates	£34,998,000
Navy estimates	19,876,000

£54,874,000

This sum represents what we should have had to disburse for the two services had the war continued. In consequence of peace those estimates have been revised, and they now stand thus:—

Army	£20,747,000
Navy	16,568,000

£37,315,000

The total reduction on the two services amounts



GOLD BOX PRESENTED WITH THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY TO ADMIRAL SIR EDMUND LYONS.



DEPUTATION OF CIRCASSIANS TO THE SULTAN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



to £17,559,000, the saving on the Army being £14,251,000; and on the Navy £3,308,000.

The gross expenditure for 1856-57 is put down at £82,113,000
Net ditto 77,525,000

Difference 4,588,000

This requires explanation, and it is a very satisfactory one, for the difference between the gross and net revenue exactly expresses the cost of collecting the revenue, which item never appeared in any former Budget; and it is only an act of bare Justice to state that this wise and honest reform in the mode of making up the public accounts is due to the perseverance of Mr. Williams, M.P. for Lambeth.

The Income and Property Tax, in its fullest stringency, is to be continued during the present and the next year, in consequence of the wording of the Act of Parliament, which sanctioned it till the April succeeding, not the signature, but the ratification, of a treaty of peace. It remains, therefore, at 1s. 4d. in the pound, or £6 13s. 4d. per cent. Its estimate net yield is calculated at £16,000,000.

The estimated deficiency of the year is £6,873,000
Less loan contracted last Monday £5,000,000

Actual deficiency £1,873,000

or, in round numbers, £2,000,000, to meet which a power of borrowing £2,000,000 in Exchequer Bills, will be asked for.

The Exchequer Bills outstanding on the 19th May, last Monday, amounted to £20,124,000, but of these the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt hold £5,000,000, so that there remain in the hands of the public only £15,124,000.

From the above figures it appears that the people of Great Britain have already incurred liabilities to the amount of nearly eighty millions sterling in defence of the independence of Turkey, and of the equilibrium of Europe. To this outlay will, in all human probability, have to be added at least twenty, if not forty, millions more, in maintaining our military and naval forces in such a state of readiness and efficiency as may enable us to play a leading part in any of the complications and difficulties that may arise out of the Peace which the British people accepted, but which they certainly did not make. For the loss of this actual eighty millions, and of this probable one hundred millions, Great Britain has gained nothing but the satisfaction of having performed an act of imperative duty, and of having vindicated its claim to be considered one of the two or three greatest Powers in the world. If to this satisfaction could have been added that of believing in a secure as well as honourable peace, the people of all ranks and classes would, we are certain, have borne with the utmost cheerfulness the burdens and penalties of the past, and have considered themselves fully indemnified for all the sacrifices which they have made, and all the blood and treasure which they have poured out. But it is rather too much to expect them to be particularly joyous when a war so costly has brought them so small a return, and when the peace is unaccompanied by any confident belief in its stability. The official mind may rejoice, for it may well be glad that the war is over; but to expect more from the people than a quiet acquiescence in a *fait accompli* is, under the circumstances, to expect too much.

PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY TO ADMIRAL LYONS.

ON Tuesday a special Court of Common Council of the city of London was held, for the purpose of presenting the freedom of the City to Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., agreeably to the resolution unanimously passed in the court on the 28th of February last. The court had a remarkably brilliant appearance, a number of ladies from the other end of the metropolis having honoured it with their presence. Sir Edmund Lyons was introduced by Mr. Deputy Dakin and Mr. Alderman Sheriff Kennedy, the mover and seconder of the resolution, and was received with hearty cheers.

The freedom of the City, in a gold box, valued at 100 guineas, was then presented to him, in testimony of the admiration of the court of his distinguished services. Sir John Key having addressed Sir Edmund, and handed the box to the gallant Admiral amidst vociferous cheering, Admiral Lyons made an eloquent speech in reply, in which he expressed how deeply sensible he was of the distinguished honour which had been conferred on him by those whom he had now the privilege of addressing as fellow citizens.

The whole court rose and cheered the gallant Admiral at the close of his address, and the Lord Mayor immediately intimated that the proceedings of the day were at an end. His Lordship then invited the whole company to lunch at the Mansion-house, and entertained them in the Egyptian-hall.

We have, upon the preceding page, engraved the Box in which the freedom was presented. It is of standard gold. The size is 4½ in. long, 3 in. wide, and 1½ in. deep. In the centre of the engraved subject or design on the lid is a monogram formed of the letters "E. L.," the second letter, reversed, representing an Anchor, supported by Victory and Fame, and surrounded by a naval trophy. The City arms are engraved in the front; and at the sides, and corners, and back, nautical emblems are introduced. At the bottom of the box are the Admiral's full arms, crest, supporters, and motto; with the Crimean medal and the different orders attached. The design, which is very characteristic, and the workmanship, reflect much credit upon the taste and judgment of Mr. Clarke, goldsmith and Jeweller, King William-street, City, by whom the Box has been manufactured.

The following inscription is engraved inside the cover:—

Salomons, Mayor. A Common Council holden in the Chamber of the Guild-hall of the city of London, on Thursday, the 28th day of February, 1856.

Resolved unanimously, That the freedom of this ancient city, in a gold box of the value of one hundred guineas, be presented to Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., in testimony of its admiration of his distinguished services.

DEPUTATION OF CIRCASSIAN CHIEFS TO THE SULTAN.

THE silence which the Treaty of Peace observes about Circassia has caused great disappointment, which is fully shared by Circassia itself. The simple news that peace had been concluded produced a very strong excitement there. The mountaineers flocked down in thousands to Anapa, where a Turkish Governor, Sefer Pacha, a Circassian by birth, resides. Several hundred chieftains met to discuss and draw up an address to the Sultan, the Queen of England, and the Emperor of the French, in which they asked that the independence of their country should be recognised, and expressed their resolution to maintain their independence under any circumstances. A deputation of twelve chiefs was chosen, who took this address to Constantinople, and presented it to the Sultan. What this deputation of Circassians wants is only the recognition *de jure* of what they have always possessed *de facto*. The connection between the Turkish empire and Circassia Proper—that is, the parallelogram between Anapa, the rivers Kuban and Laba, and the mountains of Elbruz and Cape Fitzkunda, about fifty miles to the north of Soukum Kaleh—was more of a religious than a political character, the Sultan being recognised as the Suzerain Lord by the different tribes, rather as the successor of the Caliphs than as Padishah; and, with the exception of a few military esta-

blishments on the coast, the Ottoman empire could never boast of any possessions in the country.

A curious proof that Circassia Proper was always considered by the rulers of the Ottoman empire as independent consists in the fact that that country has been, even before the Russians ever made any claim to it, one of the chief slave markets for Constantinople; which could not have been the case had it been considered part of the empire, as, according to the laws, it is strictly forbidden to sell a born subject of the Sultan belonging to the Mahometan religion. It seems to be, therefore, a natural conclusion that the Turks could never cede a right to any other Power which they never possessed themselves. But, besides this, there exists likewise no proof of a cession of Circassia in any of the treaties concluded between Russia and the Turkish empire.

By recognising the independence of the Circassian tribes, the *status quo ante bellum* would be only diplomatically sanctioned; while the denying of it would amount to a recognition of the claims of Russia to the right of sovereignty over the Caucasian tribes, and put her thus in Asia in a far better position than she was before the war.

In the address which the Circassian chiefs took to Constantinople they expressed their desire that their independence should be recognised under the *suzeraineté* of the Sultan. There are two reasons which led to this wish. The first is the recollection of their old nominal allegiance to the head of Islamism, which has grown considerably by the religious movement lately arisen under the guidance of the Naib of Schamyl; and the other is the desire of finding support against the threatening political consequences of this same religious movement. With the exception of the two northernmost provinces of Circassia—Shapsook and Nagoitsk—the feudal power of the chiefs and nobles (Tschecks and Uzdens) has until lately been preserved.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE period named for the celebration of the christening of the Prince Imperial is now said to be from the 15th to the 19th of June, but the number of dates already spoken of for the festival in question leave the matter as much in doubt as ever. The removal of the Empress to St. Cloud is said to have in some degree improved her general health and strength, but there is no doubt but that the unfortunate results of her confinement are of a nature to cause her yet much and protracted inconvenience. The ceremony of the baptism is to take place at four o'clock, and at seven the Emperor is to honour with his presence a magnificent banquet at the Hôtel de Ville, to which three hundred guests are to be invited. The city of Paris counts upon rendering this one of the most splendid of the fêtes to take place on this occasion. The Comtesse de Montijo, who, in consequence of the state of the Empress's health, deferred her departure after that of the Duc and Duchesse d'Albe, whom she was to have accompanied, has now returned to Madrid.

At St. Cloud the Emperor is making a variety of improvements and embellishments; and at Villeneuve l'Étang he is building some Swiss chalets, from designs executed by himself.

In our last week's letter we stated by mistake that the Archduke Maximilian of Austria was to arrive on the 18th instant, instead of the Prince Oscar of Sweden, whose arrival had been originally named for that day. Great attention is being paid to the Archduke Maximilian, who, contrary to the plan adopted by the King of Wurtemberg and the Duc de Brabant, presents himself officially, and receives the Corps Diplomatique in due form. A ball at St. Cloud and a grand review are talked of as likely to take place during the young Duke's stay, and a dinner is to be given at St. Cloud to the Prussian Legation and the Prussians of distinction assembled in Paris.

The Comtesse Walewska has received the decoration of the Ladies of the Noble Order of Maria-Luisa—an order worn by the Empress.

A proposition has emanated from M. C. Dupin, senator, for the erection of a vast column as a memorial to the army of the East, surmounted by a statue of the Emperor. This monument is proposed to be placed at the extremity of the Boulevard of Sebastopol, on the left bank of the Seine. An idea has also been conceived for uniting the forest of St Germain with the woods of Versailles, by buying up certain houses and grounds that now divide them, and planting over the space these at present occupy. This plan, if carried into execution, will form one of the finest forests in Europe.

The most melancholy accounts continue to arrive from the provinces of the inundations that are taking place, and of their disastrous consequences. The Seine is greatly swollen, both above and below Paris; all the bureaux and other buildings on the brink are submerged, and the cellars of the houses, those of the Hôtel de Ville included, filled with water. Between Charenton and Sèvres the people are occupied night and day in preventing the wood and other property on the banks from being carried away. On the Loire and the Cher the injury done to agriculture, buildings, and other possessions is terrible, both as to value and extent. It was feared that the frequent and heavy hailstorms of the last fortnight had caused fatal mischief to the vine-crop, but fortunately the last accounts state that the reports on this subject were exaggerated.

A variety of dénégations, more or less indignant, have been drawn from various members of the great bodies of State by the declaration of their participation in different industrial speculations. The Emigration and Colonisation Company, whose assertion that among its subscribers were some placed on the steps of the Throne drew down upon it the attack of the *Moniteur*, alluded to in our last week's letter, has addressed a reply to the official journal, stating that it alluded, not to the members of the Imperial family, but to the Prince Royal of Prussia, the Prince de Montléar, &c. The *Moniteur* not having thought proper to insert this letter, the company has, it appears, sent in an assignation to the administration of the Government organ to demand its publication as a right.

The Vaudeville has a new piece by a very young writer, M. Charles de Courcy, which, notwithstanding the improbability of the plot, and the very little sympathy excited by the character of the hero, has sufficient merit to ensure it an undoubted success. In it appears, for the first time, Mdle. Dinah Félix (youngest sister of Rachel)—an actress of considerable promise.

AMERICA.

The Arabia steam-ship, with advices from New York via Halifax to the 8th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

In the Senate a debate had taken place on the Central American question, some of the speakers urging the Executive to acknowledge Walker.

In the House of Representatives Mr. Clingman, Democrat, North Carolina, submitted a resolution:—

That, for the better protection of the persons and property of American citizens, under the law of nations, and as secured by existing treaty stipulations with reference to the thoroughfares or lines of travel between the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the President be authorised to employ any part of the land or naval forces of the country, and call for and use any number of volunteers, that might be necessary to provide for the safety of passengers and others of the United States' citizens in those localities; and that such force might be used by him in aid of the local authorities, or otherwise, to ensure the observance of such rights as the Government of the United States and its citizens might be entitled to enjoy.

Objection was made to the introduction of the resolution. During the discussion,

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, said that he understood the resolution authorised the President to take possession of Central America, but he did not want it then. Several voices thereupon exclaimed, "We do; let's take it!"

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, wished to amend the resolution, looking to the annexation of the British provinces; but this was declined, and the House, without taking any action on the subject, adjourned.

The President and members of the Cabinet held a consultation on the 5th

on Nicaraguan affairs. It is thought the outside pressure will compel the Administration to receive the new Minister. Mr. Soule, in a speech at the New Orleans meeting on the 28th ult., announced with much positiveness that the United States' Government would recognise that of General Walker.

THE WAR IN NICARAGUA.

Intelligence from Nicaragua by telegraph, via Panama, states that Greytown was blockaded by the British ship *Eurydice* on the 20th ult. The steamers *Isabel* and *Charles Myrnan* had reached Greytown from New Orleans, and landed 500 men for Walker. A brig from New Orleans was expected at Greytown for Walker, and would be stopped on her arrival by the *Eurydice*. The United States' steamers *Fulton* and *Merrimac*, with her Britannic Majesty's steamer *Termagant*, were daily expected, with two French ships, to join the blockade. In the Santa Rosa fight Walker lost twenty-six men, and Costa Rica fifteen men and four officers. President Mora invaded Nicaragua with 2500 men, and was to attack Walker in Rivas about the 19th ult. Two thousand men left Coguatique, Salvador, on the 14th, to help Costa Rica.

The New York *Times* examines closely the various accounts of Walker's position, and finds on the 1st of April he commanded at the most not more than 800 men, and so distributed as to enable him to bring only 500 to bear in the way of attack upon any given point. Five hundred of these were at Rivas, 120 at Granada, 60 at Leon, 30 at San Carlos, 50 at Castillo, and 40 at the mouth of the Serrapiqui. On the 3rd of April he was obliged to abandon Rivas through want of food, and to return to his old head-quarters at Granada, uniting his command of 500 with the 120 (probably reduced to 100) under Lieutenant-Colonel Piper, who had been left in charge of that town. It was at this place and thus conditioned that on 7th April he received news of the invasion of Nicaragua by the Costa Ricans, and the occupation of Rivas by 2000 of their force. He determined instantly to march against them, and it is reasonable to conclude that for an effort so desperate he took with him every soldier who could be spared from the defence of the city. He set out on the morning of the 8th, and the *Nicaraguense* reports his march to have been made with 500 men, which included 100 native troops. He made his attack upon Rivas on the morning of the 11th, maintained a struggle of seventeen hours, and then retired, with a loss of thirty killed, and of wounded or missing some sixty or seventy more. Thus reduced he fell upon Granada, and there the latest advices leave him with probably less than 500 effective men under his command.

THE COURT.

The arrival of his Royal Highness Prince Frederick William of Prussia, as suitor for the hand of the Princess Royal of England, has been the chief incident in Court life during the week. His Royal Highness landed at Dover at midnight on Tuesday, and on the following morning travelled to Portsmouth, where his Royal Highness was met by the Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princess Royal. The illustrious party proceeded together to Osborne.

The Court movements of the week are thus chronicled by official authority:—

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at Osborne on Friday

se'night on a visit to the Queen and the Prince.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Royal, attended Divine service at Whippingham Church.

The Rev. G. Prothero officiated.

On Monday her Majesty and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Royal, crossed over in the *Fairy*, and proceeded to the Southampton Water to the spot appointed for the erection of the Royal Victoria Hospital, near Netley Abbey, of which her Majesty laid the first stone. Her Majesty received an address from the Corporation of Southampton, and returned a gracious answer. After the ceremony of laying the first stone the Royal party re-embarked in the *Fairy*, and returned to Osborne.

On Tuesday her Majesty reviewed the regiments of militia in garrison at Portsmouth and Gosport, on Southsea-common. The Queen and Prince, accompanied by Prince Arthur, Princess Helena, and Princess Louisa, landed at the King's-stairs, from the Royal yacht *Fairy*, at five o'clock; where Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, Major-General Breton, Sir George Wetherall, Sir Richard Airey, and the officers of the staff, received her Majesty, and where two of the Queen's carriages were in waiting to convey the Royal party to the review-ground. His Royal Highness Prince Albert accompanied her Majesty on horseback. On arriving on the ground her Majesty reviewed the troops under the command of Major-General Breton. The Royal party re-embarked in the *Fairy* at ten minutes before seven o'clock, and returned to Osborne.

The Duke of Wellington, as Master of the Horse to her Majesty, has issued cards for a grand full-dress banquet, on the 31st inst., to celebrate the Queen's birthday, at Apsley-house.

The Earl Spencer will give the customary banquet, in celebration of the Queen's birthday, to the officers of the Lord Steward's department, at Spencer-house, on Thursday next, and not on the 31st, as will be the case with the other members of the Ministry.

The Earl of Shaftesbury has had the Lord Lieutenancy of the county of Dorset, vacant by the demise of Lord Digby, conferred upon him by her Majesty.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LORD ADOLPHUS FITZCLARENCE.

REAR-ADMIRAL LORD ADOLPHUS FITZCLARENCE, G.C.H., who died on the 17th inst., at Newburgh-park, Sir George Wombwell's seat, near Easingwold, Yorkshire, was the second son of King William IV. His mother was Mrs. Jordan, the celebrated actress, who died at St. Cloud, in France, the 8th July, 1816. He was born the 18th Feb., 1802, and entered the Royal Navy soon after he had completed his sixteenth year as midshipman on board the *Spartan*. Passing through the intermediate grades, he rose to that of Post Captain in 1824; and in February, 1826, he was appointed to command the *Ariadne* in the Mediterranean; and in July, 1828, when commanding the *Challenger*, he conveyed the late Earl of Dalhousie, then Governor-General of Canada, from Quebec to England, and subsequently, in the *Pallas*, took that nobleman as Commander-in-Chief to the East Indies. When William IV. ascended the throne Captain Adolphus Fitzclarence was given the command of the *Royal George* yacht. He was also made Groom of the Robes to the King, with the rank of Groom of the Bedchamber; and shortly after he was advanced, with the other children of the King by Mrs. Jordan, to the rank of a Marquis's younger son. In January, 1833, he was made a Lord of the Bedchamber, and for a time held the offices of Deputy Ranger of Bushy Park and of Windsor Home Park. Lord Adolphus continued to retain the command of the Queen's yacht until he got his flag rank of Rear-Admiral, in 1853, when he was succeeded in the Royal yacht command by Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman.

In 1832 Lord Adolphus conveyed to the late King of Prussia a beautiful miniature frigate—a present from William IV., and he was on that occasion created a Knight of the Red Eagle of Prussia of the first class. He was also a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, to which he was nominated in 1852. His Lordship had declined the offer of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Greenwich Hospital. Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, whose death is very generally deplored, was the last survivor of those four noble brothers who all inherited the amiable and benevolent disposition of their Royal father, and were all popular, and everywhere enjoyed affection and esteem.

WILLS.—Probate of the will of the Most Noble Charles, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and Hereditary Marshal of England, was sworn under £100,000 personality within the province of Canterbury.—Sir Hyde Parker, Bart., £20,000.—Joseph Neild, Esq., M.P., £250,000.—W. G. T. Tyssen Amhurst, Esq., of Diddington-park, £20,000.—James Urquhart, £20,000.—Charles Walton, ship and insurance broker, £70,000.

CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—The late Mrs. Phillis Stephens only survived her husband, William Stephens, Esq., four days, and by her will has left the same amount of legacies—namely, £2200—as was bequeathed under his will, payable at her decease, by which the following societies will receive under each will the under-mentioned bequests, viz., Royal Berkshire Hospital, £500; British and Foreign Bible Society, £500; Parent Church Missionary, £200; Irish Church Missionary, £200; Parent Church Pastoral Aid, £200; Green Girls' Charity-school, Reading, Berks, £200; Reading Medical Dispensary, £200; Sunday School in connection with Trinity Church, Reading, £200.

FATAL EXPLOSION IN WOOLWICH ARSENAL.—Last Saturday afternoon, at half-past three o'clock, another lamentable explosion occurred in the Laboratory department of Woolwich Arsenal, by which four men were killed and seven persons severely wounded. The explosion took place in the sheds in the centre of the Laboratory-square, where the composition for filling percussion-caps was made. The windows and sashes of the various offices and workshops in the laboratory were entirely destroyed. The new saw-mills are also destroyed, and the total extent of damage is immense. William Powell, who was injured by the explosion in a rocket-shed a fortnight since, died last week at the Royal Ordnance Hospital.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

COSTA RICA.

The Earl of ELGIN asked if there was any truth in the statement which had appeared in the papers respecting a promise of a supply of arms being made by the Government of this country to the Government of Costa Rica?

The Earl of CLARENDON stated that, since the attack of Walker on that country, its Government had several times applied to this country for assistance; but all these applications had been refused, and our Government had expressed their determination not to interfere in the affairs of Central America—in fact, to do nothing more than send such a force to the coast of South America as might suffice for the protection of British subjects and property. It was represented by Mr. Wallerstein that a slight force would suffice for the protection of British subjects, and also to repel the aggression of Walker; and he asked if the War Department of this country would supply them with arms? The answer referred to was sent; but since that time Mr. Wallerstein was dead, and nothing had been done. He (the Earl of Clarendon) had since communicated with the United States' Government on the subject, and Mr. Crampton reported a conversation with Mr. Marcy, on the 15th March, to the effect that the United States' Government entirely disapproved of the proceedings. In answer to that he had suggested that there could be no better plan than for the English and United States' Governments to unite for the protection of their respective subjects (Hear, hear).

INDIA.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to examine into the administration of the Indian empire. The noble Earl supported his motion by some prolonged comments upon the anomalous conditions and injurious results with which the existing government of India was now carried on.

Earl GRANVILLE opposed the motion, which, after some remarks from the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, was negatived without a division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE BANDS IN THE PARKS.

To various questions touching the discontinuance of musical performances in the parks,

Lord PALMERSTON stated that the prohibitory injunction was intended to operate only with regard to the performances by military bands in the metropolitan parks, and would not extend to the similar exhibitions in garrison or other towns in the provinces. No deputation of Scottish members had, he added, waited upon the Government with any remonstrances on the subject of these performances.

THE BUDGET.

The House having resolved itself into Committee of Ways and Means, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose to submit the annual financial statement to the House. Reverting to the expenditure of the past year, he cited the balance-sheets lately presented, which showed that the total outlay in the twelve months ending on the 31st of March last had been £88,428,000, while the revenue from taxation had amounted to £65,704,000, showing a deficit of £22,723,000. During that year a sum of £26,478,000 had been borrowed, partly by loans in Consols, and partly upon Exchequer Bills and Bonds, with the effect of not merely providing for the deficiency in the year's revenue, but also of augmenting the Treasury balance, which stood at the beginning of the financial year at £3,949,000, and had increased at the end of it to £5,600,000. With respect to the cost of the war, Sir G. C. Lewis instituted a comparison between the expenditure and income of the last years of peace, as contrasted with that of the period which had elapsed since the outbreak of hostilities. In the two years 1852-3 and 1853-4 the amount received from all sources of revenue had been £108,818,000, which had satisfied all demands and left a surplus of about £5,916,000. In the past two years of war £125,200,000 had been realised from the taxes, showing an increase of £17,182,000 beyond the previous revenue; which augmentation, in addition to the previously accruing surplus, and a sum of £33,604,000 of borrowed money, had been swallowed up by the expenses of the contest. The estimated outlay incurred on account of the war and in anticipation of another campaign during the current twelvemonth was £24,500,000. The war altogether, therefore, would have cost £77,558,000, of which about £35,500,000 would be defrayed from revenue, and £42,000,000 added to the public debt, a large proportion taking the form of unfunded and floating securities. Of this large expenditure he reminded the House a considerable portion was represented by a permanent result in the shape of augmented naval armaments, of arsenals amply stocked with every material for warlike operations, and of an army largely increased in numbers and admirably equipped for service. Besides the provision for national expenditure, the Government had in the past year advanced £1,000,000 on loan to Sardinia, and designed to ask Parliament to advance £1,000,000 in the present twelvemonth, in pursuance of the convention entered into early in 1855. Passing on to the anticipated outlay and income of the current year, the Chancellor of the Exchequer remarked that the revised estimates recently presented had shown a reduction of £17,559,000 accomplished since the conclusion of peace upon the army and navy alone. The total estimated cost of the different items of expenditure he computed as follows:—For interest on the funded debt, £27,635,000; interest on floating securities, £1,025,000; charges on the Consolidated Fund, £1,750,000; for the army, £20,747,000; navy, £16,568,000; miscellaneous civil service expenditure, £6,800,000; the total estimated outlay for supply service was £44,115,000; and the gross expenditure, excluding cost of collection, &c. (but inclusive of the one million loan to Sardinia, and two millions vote of credit for contingencies), was £77,525,000. Adverting to revenue, Sir G. C. Lewis explained the returns, and dwelt upon the buoyancy exhibited by various branches of receipt, and especially those belonging to those items which had been temporarily enhanced for the avowed purpose of supplying the demands of the war. During the current twelvemonth, he proceeded to state, the net produce from Customs was expected to be £22,524,000, from Excise £16,348,000, from Stamps £7,000,000, from Land and Assessed Taxes £2,095,000, from Property and Income Tax £16,000,000, from Post-office £1,070,000, from Crown Lands £260,000, and from miscellaneous sources £1,000,000. On the whole, he anticipated to obtain a gross revenue of £71,740,000, and a net income of £67,162,000. Compared with the gross amount of expenditure, this total showed a deficit of £10,373,000. To fill up this chasm £1,500,000 had been received as balance of a loan of £5,000,000 concluded, but only partially paid up, during the bygone year; and a new loan of £5,000,000 had been contracted that very morning at a price of £93 for every £100 Consols Stock. After mentioning, as a proof of the vast resources of the country, that Messrs. Rothschild had received proffers on account of this new loan amounting to not less than £40,000,000 sterling, of which ten per cent, or £4,000,000, was actually paid in cash, the right hon. Baronet stated that for the residue of the deficiency, being about £2,000,000, he designed to ask leave to borrow money either in Exchequer Bonds or Exchequer Bills, according to the aspect of the Money Market at the time, with a similar provision for the further two millions which he wished to obtain by way of margin, to meet any unforeseen excess in the cost of different services. Explaining the process by which the Income-tax, the Tea-duties, and other imposts would be successively reduced, according to existing arrangements, in consequence of the termination of hostilities, he intimated that, with these exceptions, no reduction could for some time to come be prudently sanctioned in any branch of revenue, not even excepting the duty on fire insurances. The Chancellor of the Exchequer concluded by offering some remarks upon the recent changes and remissions in various duties, and of the reductions to be anticipated in the gross amount of the National Debt consequent upon the falling in of sundry series of terminable annuities.

A formal resolution, sanctioning the terms of the new loan of £5,000,000, was then read from the chair.

Mr. ALCOCK regretted that the Finance Minister still intended to maintain the duty on fire insurances at its present exorbitant tariff.

Mr. HADFIELD promised, at the fitting moment, to propose that this impost should be reduced from 3s. to 1s. per centum.

Mr. E. BALL contended for a reduction in the malt-duty.

Mr. M. GIBSON enforced the necessity of retrenchment and financial reform. He wished to see the paper-duty and all taxes upon literature and education entirely abolished, and hoped that the expenditure upon military and naval armaments would be rapidly brought down to the level at which it stood before the war. He contended that the maintenance of the duty on paper was utterly inconsistent with the desire which had been frequently expressed in Parliament for the diffusion of knowledge among all classes of the people. He therefore gave notice to the Government that, whether there was a deficiency or a surplus of revenue, he should feel it his duty on a fitting occasion again to ask that House to repeal the duty on paper.

Mr. Ingram and Mr. Disraeli rose at the same moment, but cries of "New Member!" made the latter give way.

Mr. INGRAM said he was quite prepared to go into the question of the paper-duty; but as the right hon. member for Manchester had intimated that he would call the attention of the House to that subject on a future occasion, he (Mr. Ingram) would defer the observations he wished to make until the right hon. gentleman brought forward his motion. He regarded the paper-duty as a most obnoxious tax, and he thought the statements he would be able to adduce would satisfy the House that it ought to be abolished.

Mr. DISRAELI exhorted the Government, when the excitement of war had passed away, to embark upon a course of wise and rigid economy, and controverted the assumption that a large warlike force should be kept on foot in time of peace by way of preparation for the contingency of war. The best mode of preparing for hostilities was to economise resources and extend commerce during peace. It was, however, possible to maintain a very efficient army without rendering it either extensive in number or burdensome in cost, and as a feeder to this army he considered the preservation of a militia force highly advan-

tageous. Mr. Disraeli then adverted to the Sardinian Loan, commenting upon the relationships between the British Government and the Sovereign of Piedmont, especially as affected by the tripartite alliance concluded between England, France, and Austria.

Lord PALMERSTON explained the import of the treaty in question, in which he remarked Mr. Disraeli had suspected mysterious meanings that did not exist, and discovered dangers that had no foundation in fact. There was nothing in the convention with Austria which prevented the Governments of England and France from maintaining cordial alliance with Sardinia, and pledged them to oppose in any way the efforts that might be made by any of the Italian States to achieve freedom and independence.

Sir F. BARING expressed a general approval of the financial scheme just enunciated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. GLADSTONE continued the discussion relative to Sardinia, eulogising the policy which had been pursued by that country, and invoking the sympathy of the British Legislature and public in behalf of the efforts it was making to consolidate its free constitution and domestic prosperity. Adverting to the budgetary statement just presented, Mr. Gladstone remarked that the Finance Minister had "sailed too near the wind," when balancing his receipts and outlay—having left too narrow a margin for accidental expenses. On some points also he believed that larger reductions would have been possible—instancing, among others, the estimated charges for the naval and transport services.

Further remarks of a miscellaneous character respecting the different branches of income and expenditure were offered by Mr. Malins, Sir H. Willoughby, and one or two other members.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made a short reply to objections, in the course of which he stated that the £5,000,000 Exchequer Bills held by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt represented savings-banks money.

The resolutions were then agreed to.

FIRE INSURANCES BILL.—On the order for going into Committee upon the Fire Insurances Bill a discussion of some length arose, and the House divided upon the question that the Committee be deferred for six months, which was negatived by 172 to 31; after which the House went into Committee upon the bill, the clauses of which underwent much discussion.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Matrimonial Causes and Divorce Bill, after a long discussion, was referred, on the suggestion of Lord LYNCHURST, to a Select Committee.

MARITIME LAW.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH laid on the table the resolutions which he intends to move when bringing under their Lordships' consideration the changes in Maritime Law made by the Peace Plenipotentiaries at the Paris Conferences.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

SECRET TRIPARTITE TREATY.—The Marquis of GRANBY wished to ask the noble Lord at the head of her Majesty's Government whether any secret treaty had been entered into between France, Austria, and England?—Lord PALMERSTON: If there were a secret treaty the noble Lord would perhaps excuse me for not making it public (Laughter). It is something like a question put to me by my late hon. friend the member for Montrose, who asked for a return showing the application of secret-service money (Laughter). However, I have no hesitation in saying that the only treaty concluded is that which has been laid on the table.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. H. BERKELEY moved for leave to bring in a bill to protect the electors of Great Britain and Ireland by taking the votes by way of ballot. The hon. gentleman resorted to the usual arguments in support of his motion, treating the subject in his usual amusing manner, and disclaiming all idea of attacking the aristocracy, although his object was to prevent the House of Commons from becoming the nominees of the House of Lords. No one could deny but what the most scandalous things existed after a general election, and yet the House had passed a measure—the Corrupt Practices Bill—which made them the laughing-stock of the whole country. Let the House listen to a voice from the various boroughs, and he would begin with the last election for the borough of Boston. [The hon. member proceeded to read an extract from a London paper descriptive of the proceedings of a confederacy of freemen and electors of Boston, known as the Rock Club, who marched through the town with a green banner and a life and drum, making known to the rival candidates that they were ready to be purchased and to sell their votes to the highest bidder. When it was announced that the independent candidate would withdraw, his committee marched into his rooms, and each formally presented bills thus worded:—"To attendance upon Colonel Sleight in committee and canvass, £1 10s." He believed he could prove the existence of bribery out of the mouths of both candidates. [Mr. Ingram: I deny that.] He would now refer to the election proceedings at the city of Bath, where the two candidates, Messrs. Tite and Whately, declared that they knew of fifteen or sixteen cases where the screw had been put on their friends. The hon. gentleman then alluded to the disgraceful scenes which had taken place at the elections of Rochester, Leominster, and Midhurst, as supporting his arguments in favour of the ballot, and observed that it had been said he was endeavouring to damage the aristocracy. He wished, however, to state that he had no such intention (Hear, hear).

Sir DE LACY EVANS seconded the motion; which was opposed by Mr. PEACOCKE, who argued that, if vote by ballot should be introduced in Parliamentary elections for the purpose of liberating electors from intimidation, it ought likewise to be adopted in the voting of the House of Commons, in order that the members might be relieved from the pressure frequently put upon them by their constituents, and under which pressure many members voted against their deliberate convictions.

After a short reply from Mr. H. BERKELEY, and no remark whatever from any member of the Government either for or against the motion, the House divided, when there appeared—For the motion, 111; against it, 151: majority against the motion, 40. The motion was therefore lost.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE obtained leave to bring in a bill to take away from all Archbishops, Bishops, and ecclesiastical persons in England and Wales, all power of appointing Judges and Chancellors, and vesting such power in the Lord Chancellor.

Mr. COWPER obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Public Health Act.

Mr. PELLATT obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Law of Imprisonment for Debt.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

SLIGO ELECTION.—Mr. GEORGE BUTT brought up the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the Sligo election, finding that Mr. Wynne had been duly returned; that the petition against him was frivolous and vexatious; and that, in the opinion of the Committee, two of the witnesses had been guilty of perjury.

On the motion of Mr. S. CHILDE, the Advertisements Bill was read a second time.

CHURCH-RATE BILL.—Mr. PACKE moved the second reading of the Church-rate Bill which he had introduced; the great principle of which was that Church-rates as now levied should be divided into two parts—one portion being devoted to the maintenance of the fabric, and the other portion to the support of the services of the Church; and excusing Dissenters from payment of the latter, while they continued to pay towards the former object.—Sir W. CLAY moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months, as its principle was totally at variance with that which he had introduced.—Sir G. GREY opposed the bill; and Mr. PACKE, on the suggestion of Sir J. PAKINGTON, consented to withdraw it.

JUSTICES OF PEACE QUALIFICATION BILL.—The House then went into Committee on the Justices of Peace Qualification Bill, and after agreeing to some clauses, and striking out others, Mr. STANHOPE moved that the Chairman do leave the chair, which was carried on a division by a majority of 135 to 73. The bill is consequently lost.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE STATE OF ITALY.—Lord LYNCHURST said, in deference to the wish of the Earl of Clarendon, he would withdraw his notice on the subject of Italy, which stood for Tuesday next. He was, however, bound to state that the reasons which induced him to give that notice were as strong now as ever they were. Having, however, the good of Italy at heart, he thought he would be promoting that object by acquiescing in the request of the noble Earl.—Lord CLARENDON expressed his satisfaction at the determination of the noble and learned Lord. The reasons which induced him a few nights ago to ask the noble and learned Lord to postpone his motion were perhaps stronger even now. He believed that the course taken by the Government was likely to produce satisfactory results.

OUR MARITIME LAWS.

Lord COLCHESTER moved the following resolutions, viz. :—

That the most eminent jurists of all ages have accepted as a principle of international law that the right of capturing an enemy's goods on board of neutral vessels is inherent in all belligerent Powers; that the maintenance of this right is of essential importance, and its abandonment of serious injury to a Power whose main reliance is on her naval superiority.

That Great Britain, consequently, although occasionally waiving the exercise of the right by specific treaties, has invariably refused to recognise the abandonment of a principle which successive Governments have concurred in considering identified with her national greatness.

That this House deeply regrets that a principle so long and so strenuously maintained should in the recent Conferences at Paris have been suddenly abandoned, without the previous sanction or knowledge of Parliament, by Plenipotentiaries assembled for the purpose of discussing the terms on which peace with Russia might be concluded, and the affairs of the East satisfactorily adjusted. The noble Lord made a speech at some length in support of his resolutions.

The Earl of CLARENDON contended that it would be inconsistent with the honour and interests of England to adopt those resolutions, par-

ticularly at the present time, when the policy of nations was undergoing such changes. If they agreed to such resolutions they would have combined against the country all the maritime Powers of the world, who were constantly and energetically protesting against the exercise of the principle involved in them. As for the jurists who supported it, their opinion was entitled to no greater weight than that of the authorities at home who had supported the worst principles of our penal code. He had caused the writings of modern jurists to be consulted, and every one of them contended that the practice was a relic of barbarous times, and ought to be replaced by the principle of "free ships, free goods."

The Earl of CARNARVON and the Earl of HARDWICKE objected to the change in our Maritime Law.

The Earl of HARROWBY, the Earl of ALBEMARLE, and the Duke of ARGYLL took the opposite view.

The Earl of DERBY denounced the course taken by the British Plenipotentiaries. Instead of restricting themselves to concluding a Treaty of Peace, they had committed an act derogatory to the honour of England, and surrendered a right upon which her naval superiority depended. They had unduly stretched the Royal prerogative, and betrayed the confidence of the country.

Earl GREY strongly supported the Government.

Earl GRANVILLE replied to the arguments used by the Earl of Derby. Their Lordships divided, when the numbers were—

For Lord Colchester's resolutions—

Contents: Present ...	56
Proxies ...	46—102
Non-Contents: Present ...	88
Proxies ...	68—156
Majority in favour of Government ...	54

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Sir F. Kelly, said it was the intention of the Government to introduce a bill to continue the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act for a further limited period.

THE FACTORIES BILL.—On the motion for going into Committee upon the Factories Bill, Mr. CORBETT objected to the bill as taking away the protection which the workers in factories at present enjoyed by the protection of the machinery, and moved that the House should go into Committee that day six months.—Col. W. PATTEN urged the importance of the measure as necessary to correct the defects of the Act, which were apparent on the face of it. He denied that it would remove from the operatives in factories any of the protection which they at present possessed from accidents by the machinery.—Sir G. GREY supported the motion for going into Committee, which was subsequently carried by a majority of 207 to 50. The House then went into Committee, and the clauses of the bill were under discussion for a considerable portion of the night. The bill ultimately went through Committee.

THE VICTORIA MILITARY HOSPITAL AT HAMBLE.

THE first public act of her Majesty after the official conclusion of peace was the ceremony which she accomplished on Monday last, in the laying of the foundation-stone of a new military hospital near Southampton, which will, it is expected, be the first of its class in Europe.

The site of this gigantic establishment, one hundred acres in extent, is distant six miles from Southampton, and about twelve from Portsmouth.

The ground slopes down gradually to the water's edge, and commands some of the best views in that picturesque locality. Close by stand the ruins of Netley Abbey, and on the opposite side of Southampton Water the shore is fringed with forest scenery.

The building itself will be of immense magnitude; the frontage alone (facing south-west) will extend upwards of 1400 feet. The main block is to consist of a centre and two wings, each three stories high. The centre is intended to be appropriate as a hospital for sick and invalid officers, the two wings for soldiers—the whole having accommodation for 1000 patients, divided into wards of various sizes. The building is expected to be completed in about three years; the cost, it is understood, will be about £200,000. The design is by Mr. Mennie, architect of the War Department.

The ceremony of laying the first stone of this magnificent pile was very imposing. The jetty was decorated by an archway of evergreen, surmounted by a crown. The entire length was covered with scarlet cloth, and at the land end was a platform for the presentation of the address from the Mayor and Corporation of Southampton. The ground was lined with detachments of military.

Shortly after eleven o'clock the *Victoria and Albert*, tended, as usual, by the *Fairy*, and followed by a flotilla of gun-boats, was opposite the landing-place. Her Majesty immediately descended into the state barge, accompanied by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and one of the younger Princes, and attended by the Duchesses of Wellington and the Hon. Mary Seymour.

As soon as the Queen had reached the platform, Lord Panmure presented the ex-Mayor of Southampton, Mr. J. T. Tucker (who officiated in consequence of the illness of Mr. Sampson Payne, the present Mayor), to her Majesty. The address was read by the Town-clerk, Mr. C. Deacon, and afterwards presented by Mr. Tucker. On receiving the document her Majesty replied—"I thank you for your loyal address, and receive with much satisfaction your assurance of attachment to myself, and sympathy in the welfare of my brave soldiers, and accept the deep interest evinced by the Corporation of Southampton in this day's proceedings as a token of their determination to forward as far as is in their power this national work."

The Queen then proceeded, amid the most enthusiastic cheers, to the spot selected for laying the foundation-stone, when the commanding Engineer presented to her Majesty the plans of the building. Her Majesty having signified her approval of them, they were placed in the copper box prepared for the purpose, together with the coins, medals, and cross, and the vellum document recording the event. The Queen tried the stone with the plummet and level, and tapped it in the usual form, taking counsel with Lord Panmure as to the correct and truly masonic method of doing so.

This portion of the ceremony being concluded, Lord Panmure came forward and said, in a loud, distinct voice:—"I am directed by her Majesty to declare that the first stone of the Military Hospital is laid, and that her Majesty has been pleased to sanction its being called the Royal Victoria Hospital."

This announcement was followed by loud cheers. The ships in the river fired a salute, and the military bands played "God Save the Queen." The Bishop of Winchester then offered up a prayer and pronounced a blessing, and the 100th psalm was sung by the choir.

The stone bears the following inscription:—

This stone was laid on the 19th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1856, by her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, to be the foundation-stone of a military hospital for the reception of the sick and wounded soldiers of her army.

The trowel, which is elegantly chased, also bears an appropriate inscription. The mallet, of tasteful design, is by Mr. J. E. Hellyer, of Cosham, near Portsmouth.

After the ceremony the Queen retired to the marquee erected for her reception, and, after passing through the tent in which a substantial dinner for the troops was provided, returned at once on board the Royal yacht, and immediately left for Osborne.

The ex-Mayor and Corporation of Southampton, in the steam-boat *Medina*, followed shortly after her Majesty, and, after proceeding some short distance down the river, partook of a grand banquet on board, and returned in the afternoon. A display of fireworks took place on the water in the evening. We must not omit to state that Mr. J. T. Tucker, ex-Mayor, at the request of her Majesty, had the honour of an audience.

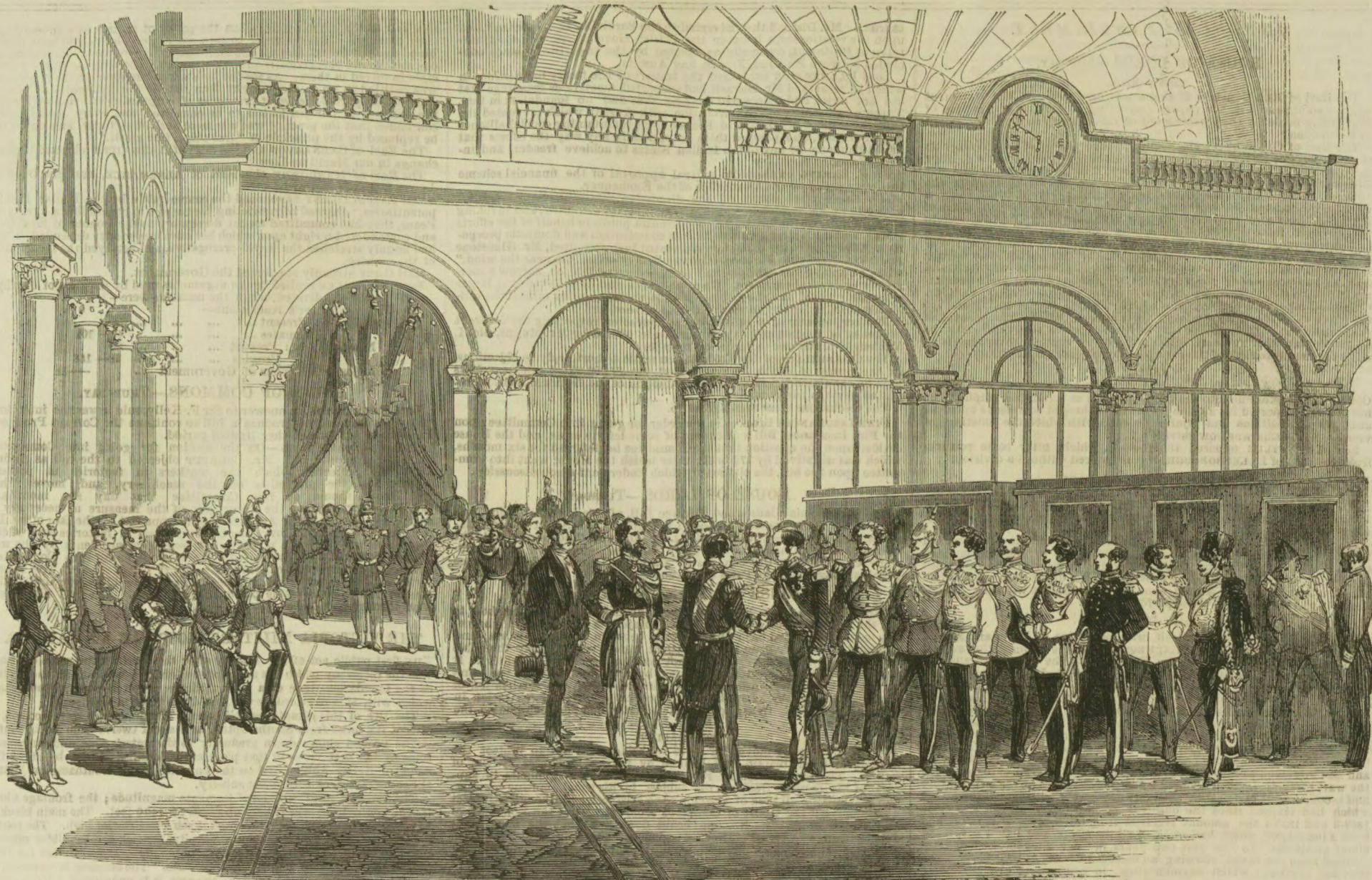
We much regret to add that as the gun-boats saluted the laying of the foundation-stone a gun of the *Hardy* prematurely went off; two seamen were blown to pieces, and several others were injured.

VISIT OF THE ARCHDUKE OF AUSTRIA TO THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

THE Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, brother of the Emperor of Austria, arrived in Paris on the evening of the 15th inst., at six o'clock, by the Strasbourg Railway. Prince Napoleon received his Imperial Highness at the terminus, and accompanied him to St. Cloud. With the Archduke returned Baron de Hubner, the Austrian Ambassador; the Duke de Tarente, one of the Chamberlains of the Emperor; and the Duke de Cadore, Orderly Officer to the Emperor, who will be attached to his Imperial Highness during his stay in France. Our Artist has sketched the reception of the Imperial visitor by the Prince. The cortège passed along the Boulevards and up the Champs Elysées. On reaching the Palace of St. Cloud, the Emperor met his illustrious visitor at the top of the grand staircase, and led him to the saloon, where the Empress awaited his arrival.

The Emperor and Archduke dined in the Pavillon Marsan, at the Tuilleries, on Saturday evening, and afterwards honoured the Opéra Comique with their presence.

The Archduke visited Notre Dame and the Jardin des Plantes on Sunday morning, and returned to St. Cloud about noon, in time to attend Divine service, which was celebrated, in presence of the Emperor and Empress, in the chapel of the château by one of the chaplains of his Majesty. The Emperor and Archduke after breakfast went in an open carriage to Versailles. The Archduke on Monday continued his visits to



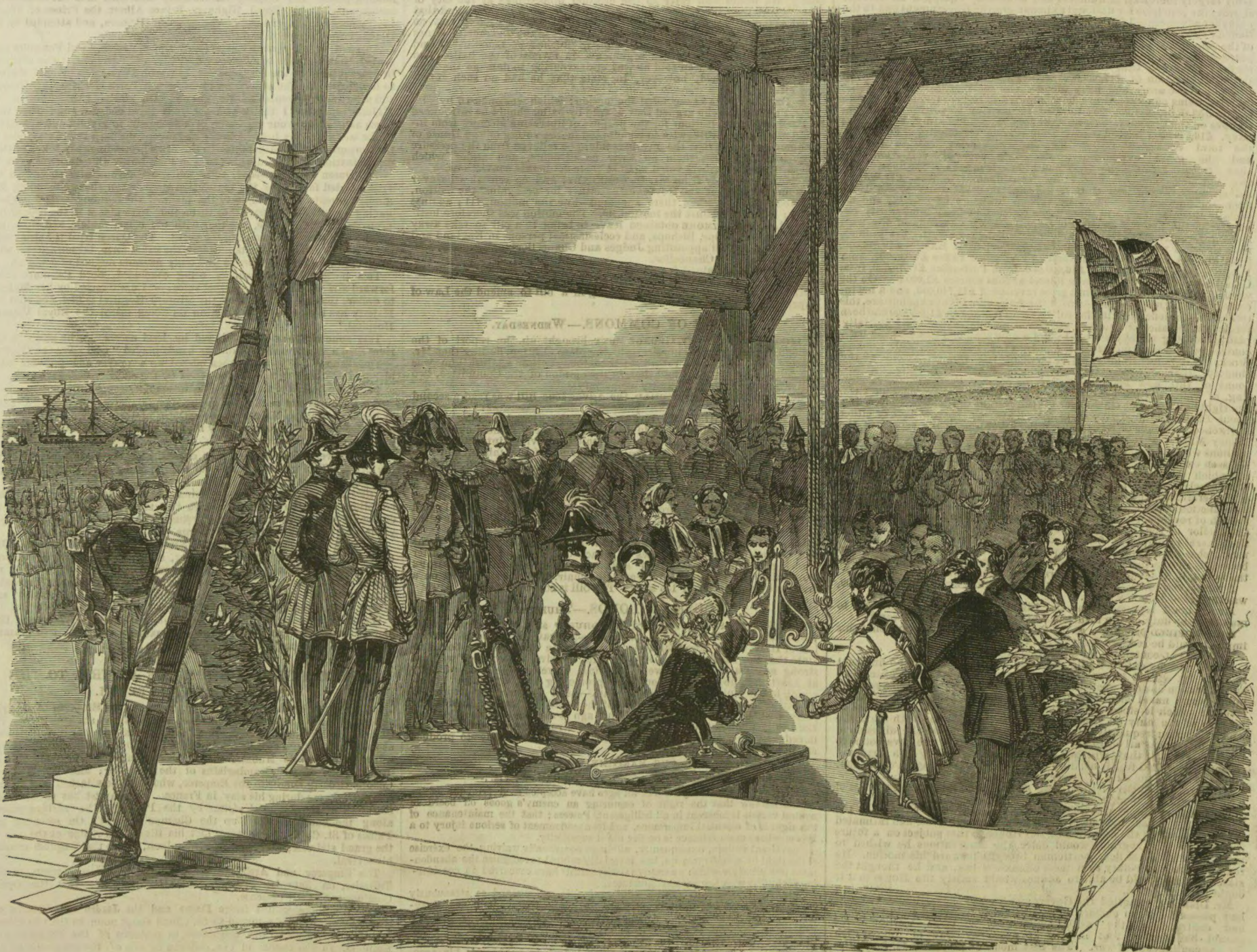
RECEPTION OF THE ARCHDUKE MAXIMILIAN OF AUSTRIA BY PRINCE NAPOLEON, AT THE STRASBOURG RAILWAY TERMINUS, AT PARIS.

the principal monuments of the capital, went to the Louvre, and examined its contents in great detail. In the evening the Prince expressed a desire to dine with his suite in some restaurant of the Palais Royal. Count Bacciocchi, First Chamberlain to the Emperor, ordered the dinner at the Trois Frères Provençaux, and was invited by the Arch-

duke to partake of it. In the evening the Prince went to the Grand Opera, where the "Corsaire" was performed.

On Tuesday a grand review took place on the Plain of Satory, near Versailles, in honour of the Imperial and Royal guests of the Emperor. When the last great military spectacles were represented on the same spot

before the Prince President of the French Republic, few imagined that within a few years the same President, transformed into Emperor, would have a Prince of the Imperial House of Hapsburg riding in his train. St Cloud has presented a series of fêtes during the Imperial visit: On Wednesday a concert, and on Thursday a ball.



HER MAJESTY LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE NEW MILITARY HOSPITAL AT HAMBLE, NEAR SOUTHAMPTON.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



INSPECTION OF THE ROYAL SAPPERS AND MINERS AT BROMPTON BARRACKS, CHATHAM, BY SIR JOHN BURGOYNE.

INSPECTION OF THE ROYAL SAPPERS AND MINERS.

THE half-yearly inspection of the Royal Engineer Corps of Sappers and Miners took place on the 14th inst., at the Brompton Barracks, Chatham. More than ordinary interest attached to the occasion, from the presence of Lieutenant-General Sir John Burgoyne, G.C.B., R.E., Inspector-General of Fortifications, who directed in person the military evolutions of the

day. After reviewing the troops on the lines above St. Mary's, the whole of the Royal Corps of Engineers were paraded in the Barrack-square, Brompton; when their kits and accoutrements underwent a minute inspection by the gallant General, attended by his staff, Colonel Savage, and commanding officer. General Burgoyne expressed himself to the Colonel Commandant as being highly satisfied with the appearance and condition of this distinguished branch of the service.

A handsome *déjeuner* was provided by the officers in honour of the occasion.

IMPROVED LONDON STREET ARCHITECTURE.

THE solid and striking pile of building at the west corner of Arundel-street and the Strand—a view of which is given below—affords a most



IMPROVED LONDON STREET ARCHITECTURE: NO 136, STRAND.

satisfactory illustration of the progress of street architecture. The site is an interesting and remarkable spot. Here stood old Arundel House, famous in the annals of art and science. From hence Chapman and Hall poured forth the flood of Dickens's popular novels. At this corner, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Duke of Wellington, was erected, under Mr. H. R. Abraham's direction, a temporary building which accommodated upwards of 2000 spectators.

The structure lately erected, from the designs of Mr. H. R. Abraham, occupies the site of eight houses—four in the Strand, and four in Arundel-street. It has a frontage of 63 feet in the Strand and 103 feet in Arundel-street; and is 75 feet high at the highest part in Arundel-street, at the south extremity of 52 feet from the Strand; from this point the building has a height extending but to the level of the string-course of the one-pair story; on a continuation of which stands a light and handsome balustrade, and behind it a dome 38 feet in diameter, which lights and ventilates the rear of the ground-floor of the premises.

The style of architecture is Italian of the Vignola school, contrasting strongly without injury with the effect of the Palladian design by the same artist on the east side of Arundel-street—a view of which has also appeared in our pages. A masculine effect has been the aim of the architect, who, denying himself columnar aids, has depended upon force of projection and unbroken lines for his success. A bold rusticated basement, with expressions for the apertures, consisting of scabbled keystones and quoins, and surmounted by a strongly-defined block cornice, is an appropriate sub-structure for the prominent system of fenestration of the one-pair story over it. This is relieved from heaviness by open balustrading and curved and angular pedimented heads and handsome trusses, which afford variety. Above, in more repose, and separated by moulded strings of strong profile, are three stories of ample height; the attic windows having continued architraves, instead of resting on a string, preparing by their solidity for the projection over them. The principal cornice has been designed to leap forward from the building, rather than to overwhelm it with huge projection; but is, nevertheless, the most striking feature in the design. A handsome and original balustrade forms the sky line. Balustrades, when open, are always handsome.

A free use of the best and most substantial material has been consigned to the architect by Messrs. Smith and Son, who, while determining to grace their enterprise with a work of art, have had the genuine good taste to avoid all meretricious display, and to raise a building in harmony with the solid character of their undertakings.

What the nature of these undertakings is which have required such an important outlay in building—amounting to more than £20,000—we will now proceed to describe.

The names W. H. Smith and Son appear on the literary refreshment-stalls at most of the principal railway stations throughout the country; but this branch of their business, and the advertising in connection with it, form but an unimportant branch of the trade carried on by the firm.

The building may be regarded as a sort of newspaper clearing-house. About two years ago Messrs. Smith and Son had accumulated in their hands so large a proportion of the trade in the supply of the daily morning papers to persons resident in the country, that the proprietors of the newspapers found it advisable to secure to them an early delivery of the papers for distribution in the country, and the smaller news-agents in London entered into arrangements with the firm to fold, pack up, and dispatch their papers for them. A large portion of the country is accordingly supplied through the office of Messrs. Smith and Son directly or indirectly, and the care and labour necessary for the punctual dispatch of the many thousand papers which pass through their office daily greatly exceed that which is required in the Post-office itself, with which this is in some degree a competing establishment.

The duties of the day commence at five a.m. At that hour the papers, wet from the printing-machines, are brought in carts successively, and as rapidly as they are printed, to Messrs. Smith's office. They are then placed on tables, and a large staff of clerks and porters are employed in counting the requisite numbers, and in placing them in covers already addressed and sorted, for dispatch by the respective trains which leave London for all parts of England, between 6 and 9.30 every morning.

In this way 650 parcels for conveyance by railway, and many thousands of papers addressed separately for the Post-office, amounting altogether to about 57,000 sheets per diem, are dispatched, so as to arrive at their respective destinations with the regularity which the reader of the daily newspaper knows so well how to appreciate.

Messrs. Smith and Son do not act as the arms and legs of the other London agents with regard to the evening or weekly papers, as the same degree of exertion is not required to ensure their dispatch by post or railway as with the morning papers; but the requisitions of their country correspondents make their office a busy scene in the afternoons, particularly on Fridays, when the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, and others of the weekly papers, are issued for dispatch to the country.

The growth of Messrs. Smith's business is almost as remarkable as that of the newspaper interest itself. Fifty years ago the *Times* contained about as much matter altogether as is now to be found in one of its pages; so that the increase is not less than sixteen-fold. Weekly papers were almost unknown; and generally the circulation of newspapers was confined to the privileged or governing classes. Messrs. Smith's business then employed two or three servants—their staff now exceeds three hundred and fifty.

To accommodate this numerous staff, to keep the right man or boy in the right place during the short period that can be allotted for the pressing work, in which minutes are as valuable as hours at the last push, space and arrangement were indispensable requisites; and a glance at the ample area of the ground story, with its gallery in the rear, the expansive domed ceiling acting as a rapid ventilator, and the lightness and business-like effect of the interior generally, satisfies the spectator that a complete knowledge of system and diffusion of labour has pervaded the designs of Messrs. Smith and Son, and been well enforced by them. The builders were Lucas Brothers.

There are several other news-agents in the metropolis who do a gigantic business—but none, we believe, who carry on so large a trade as Messrs. Smith and Son.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

TESTIMONIALS.—The Rev. Henry Blacket, Curate of Kettering, has received from his bible classes an elegantly-bound copy of "Kitto's Daily Bible," illustrations, in eight vols.—The churchwardens and inhabitants of Tredington, in the county and diocese of Worcester, have raised by voluntary subscription, and presented to the Rev. E. Eliot, B.C.L., Fellow of New College, Oxford, an elegant silver salver, as a testimony of their regret upon his resigning the curacy.

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS.—*Archdeaconry*: The Rev. R. H. Cobbold to the Archdeaconry of Ningpo. *Rectories*: The Rev. J. Maddy to Down Hatherley, Gloucestershire; Rev. C. R. Hall to Shire Newton, near Chesham, Bucks. *Vicarages*: The Rev. J. S. Byers to Elsenham, Essex; Rev. R. Arrowsmith to Stoke with Stowe, Warwickshire; Rev. J. E. Clarke to St. Michael's, Derby; Rev. C. H. Newmark to Wardley, near Uppingham. *Incumbency*: The Rev. J. L. Court to Little Brickhill, near Fenny Stratford.

THE BALLOT.

DIVISION.—HOUSE OF COMMONS, TUESDAY, MAY 20.

Motion made, and Question put, "That leave be given to bring in a Bill to protect the electors of Great Britain and Ireland, by taking the Votes by way of Ballot."—Mr. Henry Berkeley. The House divided—Ayes, 111; Noes, 151.

MINORITY IN FAVOUR OF THE BALLOT.

Adair, H. E.	Duncan, G.	Johnstone, James	Phillimore, J. G.
Adair, Colonel	Famonde, J.	Kesting, H. B.	Pickington, J.
Alcock, T.	Ewart, W.	Kershaw, J.	Ricardo, O.
Atherton, W.	Ewart, J. C.	King, Hon. P. J. L.	Rice, E. R.
Bail, J.	Ferguson, Colonel	Kinnaird, Hon. A. F.	Rosbuck, J. A.
Baxter, W. E.	Ferguson, J.	Langston, J. H.	Seobell, Captain
Berkley, F. W. F.	Goderich, J. D.	Langton, H. G.	Seymour, W. D.
Bethell, Sir R.	Foster, C.	Lassett, W.	Smith, J. B.
Biddulph, R. M.	Fox, W. J.	Lee, W.	Somerville, Right Hon.
Biggs, W.	Freeston, Colonel	M'Cann, J.	Sir W. M.
Black, A.	Gibson, Rt. Hon. T. M.	M'Mahon, P.	Stanley Hon. W. O.
Blake, M. J.	Glyn, G. C.	Magan, W. H.	Strickland, Sir G.
Bonham-Carter, J.	Goderich, Viscount	Mangin, R. D.	Strutt, Right Hon. E.
Brocklehurst, J.	Gower, Hon. F. L.	Martin, W.	Sullivan, M.
Brockman, E. D.	Greene, J.	Martin, P. W.	Tancred, H. W.
Brotherton, J.	Greenfield, C. W.	Massey, W. N.	Thornely, T.
Butler, C. S.	Hadfield, G.	Meagher, T.	Tite, W.
Byng, Hon. G. H. C.	Hall, Right Hon. Sir B.	Miall, E.	Villiers, Right Hon. C. P.
Challis, Mr. Alderman	Hankin, T.	Moffat, G.	Vivian, H. H.
Chambers, M.	Hastie, Alexander	Morris, G. F.	Walmsley, Sir H.
Chaplin, W. J.	Hastie, Archibald	Murray, J. J.	Warner, E.
Coffin, W.	Heddlam, T. E.	Norrey, Sir D. P.	Watson, W. H.
Collier, R. P.	Holland, E.	North, F.	Wickham, H. W.
Crosley, F.	Horsman, Rt. Hon. E.	O'Brien, J.	Wilkinson, W. A.
Currie, R.	Hogbes, H. G.	O'Connell, Captain D.	Willcox, B. M. G. H.
De Vere, S. E.	Hunt, W.	Owney, A. J.	
Dillwyn, L. L.	Ingram, R.	Peele, Sir G. B.	
Duncan, Viscount	Ingram, Herbert	Pellatt, A.	

A new Hackney Carriage Company has just been started in Paris, with a proposed capital of £320,000, in £4 shares.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 25.—1st Sunday after Trinity. Sir H. Davy died, 1829.
MONDAY, 26.—Sir Sidney Smith died, 1840.
TUESDAY, 27.—King of Hanover b. 1819. Habeas Corpus Act passed, 1679.
WEDNESDAY, 28.—William Pitt born, 1759.
THURSDAY, 29.—Restoration of Charles II.
FRIDAY, 30.—Treaty of Paris signed, 1814. Rubens d., 1640. Pope d., 1744.
SATURDAY, 31.—Anna Boleyn crowned, 1533.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 31, 1856.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M. 5.20 A. 5.45	M. 6.10 A. 6.40	M. 7.10 A. 7.45	M. 8.20 A. 8.55	M. 9.40 A. 10.10	M. 10.40 A. 11.10	M. 11.40 A. —

LIST OF ENGRAVINGS
IN THIS WEEK'S "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

Gold Box presented with the Freedom of the City of London to Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons ... page 545
Deposition of Circassians to the Sultan ... 545
Reception of the Archduke Maximilian of Austria by Prince Napoleon, at the Strasbourg Railway Terminus, at Paris ... 548
Her Majesty Laying the Foundation-stone of the New Military Hospital at Hamble, near Southampton ... 548
Inspection of the Royal Sappers and Miners at Brompton Barracks, Chatham, by Sir John Burgoyne ... 549
Improved London Street Architecture: 184, Strand ... 549
Picture Sale at Messrs. Christie and Manson's, King-street, St. James's ... 552
Assyrian Sculptures: Pavement: Slabs from Asshur-bani-pal—Modern Chaldean and Ancient Assyrian—The King in his Chariot—Wounded Lion—Part of the Garden ... 553
The New Naval Uniforms ... 556
The Royal Thames Yacht Club Match.—The Yachts passing Grays ... 557
Sunday-school Jubilee Commemoration in the Piece-hall, Halifax.—From a Photograph by Haigh ... 557
The Poisoning Cases at Rugeley.—Trial of William Palmer, in the Central Criminal Court ... 560
The Grave of Cook, in Rugeley Churchyard ... 560
The Post-office, Rugeley ... 561
Portrait of Lord Chief Justice Campbell, from a Pen-and-ink Sketch ... 561
Family Grave of the Palmers, at Rugeley ... 561
Residence of William Palmer, at Rugeley ... 561
The Talbot Arms Inn, Rugeley ... 564
Rugeley—sketched from the Railway ... 564
Monument to John Wesley, to be erected at Epworth ... 565
Flying Foxes in the Gardens of the Zoological Society, Regent's-park ... 565
Plovers ... 565
"And the Prayer of Faith shall save the Sick." (Painted by J. Phillip.)—From the Exhibition of the Royal Academy ... 568
"The Water-cart." (Painted by Troyon.)—From the London Exhibition of the French School of the Fine Arts ... 569
"Love's Labour's Lost." (Painted by F. R. Pickersgill.)—From the Exhibition of the Royal Academy ... 569
Progress of the Great Ship, building at Millwall, for the Eastern Steam Navigation Company ... 572
Reception of the New Governor (Kennedy) of Western Australia ... 573
Perth, Western Australia, from Mount Eliza ... 573

THE PEACE CELEBRATIONS.

Next Week, MAY 31, will be published,

A SPLENDID DOUBLE NUMBER

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

CONTAINING
A SERIES OF SUPERB ENGRAVINGS
OF THE
ILLUMINATIONS AND DISPLAYS OF FIREWORKS

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE PEACE;

Including Views of the following Public Buildings Illuminated:—The Horse Guards, Ordnance Office, and Office of the Minister-at-War; the National Gallery, and British Museum; Somerset House, and the General Post Office; the Royal Exchange, and the East India House, the Mansion House, &c.

ALSO
The Grand Display of Fireworks in the Parks and on Primrose-hill; Peace Rejoicings in the Provinces, &c.

ALSO
Portraits of their Royal Highnesses the Princess Royal, and Frederick Prince of Prussia.

In Addition to the Two Sheets will be given the
LARGE PICTURE MAP OF THE BALTIC,
AND A
FOUR-PAGE ENGRAVING OF THE FLEET,
DRAWN BY E. DUNCAN.

Price of the Two SHEETS and the LARGE MAP and PRINT, 10d.;
Stamped, 1s.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1856.

THE streets are already giving indications of the splendour with which they are destined to shine on the 29th, and the apparatus is fixed in many places for the illumination, which, however, is not to be more general than the will of the inhabitants may render it. Government will give no order to light up; and, as the occasion is to be one of "rejoicing," it is only fair that people should not be expected to "rejoice" against their inclinations, in a heavy expenditure. Those who can afford to "Welcome Peace" in gas letters six feet in length will be sufficiently numerous to contribute to the general splendour of the metropolis without calling on those who, if forced to illuminate, would wear black looks while their houses put on a glittering exterior. The satisfaction to be obtained from the fireworks ought to be of a very exalted nature to compensate for the danger and inconvenience generally attending them. Already some lamentable accidents have occurred in the factories where these instruments of national happiness are being prepared, and it is to be hoped that the joy of the public—if it feel any joy, which we very much doubt—may not be marred by some still more serious calamity. The display must be brilliant indeed that will compensate in the smallest degree for the lives already sacrificed in the preliminary arrangements. We trust, too, that in regard for the public tranquillity the Government will take measures for the effectual preservation of the peace of the metropolis during the multitudinous gatherings which it has invited. A grand ceremonial by daylight—like the funeral of the Duke of Wellington, or the entry of the Emperor and Empress of the French—is a very different thing from a nocturnal celebration. The men of red-tape have, somehow or the other, got it into their heads that the people of London are particularly elated at the peace. They argue that, as the people rejoiced at the close of the war in 1814 and 1815, they must be equally delighted at the close of the war in 1856; and that as there were fireworks and illuminations, and a

grand jubilee, on the former occasion, they are bound to follow the precedent on the other, and expend £8000 or £10,000 in a very irrational and extravagant manner. But the circumstances of the time, the temper of the people, and the state of the metropolis, are very different in 1856 from what they were in 1814, though Red-tapeism may not be aware of the change which Time has operated. The population of London has nearly doubled itself in the interval; and the inconvenience and danger to be apprehended from crowds swarming in the streets at midnight have increased in the same ratio, and ought to be guarded against with corresponding care. The Government should also remember that by its unfortunate conduct upon another question, which more particularly interests the feelings, or it may be the prejudices or the passions, of the Londoners, it has excited against itself a very considerable amount of ill-will; and that violent and injudicious persons on the one hand, or on the other the ruffians who delight in tumult and in the plunder which they expect to arise out of it, may, by their conduct, cause serious disturbance and breaches of the peace. Such occurrences—deplorable at all times—would be more especially to be lamented if they occurred at night, and upon an occasion set aside as one of rejoicing. Thursday night will, no doubt, be one of splendour in the principal thoroughfares—though, as regards the spectacle, the Government, by the non-illumination of the bridges, and of the columns in Trafalgar-square and the York steps, will miss a good opportunity for making it really beautiful and effective. But there is safety as well as splendour to be considered, and the night will be one of much anxiety, if not of terror, in many parts of the metropolis. We have the utmost confidence in the good behaviour of the great bulk of the people, both by night and by day; but great mischief may be done by a few evil-minded persons. We therefore reiterate our hope that effectual measures will be taken for the preservation of the peace; and that our somewhat pig-headed and un-courteous officials will remember that a force which may have been sufficient for the purpose in 1814 will be insufficient in 1856.

The wealth of England is in a continuous state of accumulation, nor does it find sufficient employment within its own shores. It travels to foreign lands, seeking either the profits of commerce or the dividends which arise from permanent investment. Railways form the favourite speculation of modern times, and British gold is about to plant iron roads throughout Italy and Russia. These securities may be sound and lucrative; and they who believe that the time has arrived when the lion will lie down with the lamb and the sword be converted into the pruning-hook, may also entertain a very serious conviction that future Czars will never turn them into instruments of war or aggression. There are, however, other outlets for British capital than the continent of Europe—outlets more ample, more solid, more remunerating; and they possess this collateral advantage, that, when filled, they would react upon the mother country, and stimulate and reward the industry of our manufacturing districts. We allude to British India, with its 150,000,000 of inhabitants, constituting the noblest market on the habitable globe, and where, proper facilities being afforded, England would obtain richer resources than all the gold mines of Australia can afford. The East India Company, after a long delay, has fairly commenced the work of improvement, by constructing railways and electric telegraphs; but the revenues of the Company are too feeble to enable them to carry out the principle of material progress to an extent commensurate with the wants and capabilities of the country. Hence it is that the auxiliary aid of private enterprise is most desirable where the field for its exercise is as inviting as it is unbounded.

We are aware of the mineral wealth of India, but our present purpose is to direct attention to its agriculture. There is no doubt that the products of the soil under the rule of the native princes exceeded those realised under the government of the Company, because the former bestowed constant attention on irrigation, which the latter, till recently, neglected. Formerly, tanks and reservoirs existed all over Central and Southern India. Their remains may be traced over the fertile cotton-grounds of Candeish, and their ruins are visible in the delta of the Godavery; generally speaking, it is calculated that throughout the whole Madras Presidency only one-fifth of the ancient works of fertilisation remain. The magnificent scale on which those works were constructed is astonishing even to the European mind.

"The Emperor Feroze," says Dr. Buist, in his "Notes on India," "constructed about the year 1350 a magnificent canal, for the purposes of irrigation, from the base of the mountains to the neighbourhood of Delhi, 200 miles in length, by means of which a vast tract of country was made fertile as a garden, and above a million of people provided with bread. Two centuries after this the illustrious Akbar devoted himself to the construction of new canals for the purpose of irrigation, and the clearing out of those formed by his predecessors, and which had fallen into decay. He made the subject a regular part of his system of government, and left a canal behind him, which has come down to our times, providing for a complete series of arrangements, and a large array of officers for their extension and management. The Shah Jehan, seventy years later, took up with enthusiasm the plans of his predecessor, and was nobly seconded in his efforts by Ali Murdan Khan, celebrated over the East for his skill and taste in architecture. The success of their labours was magnificent; tradition still enlarges on the vastness of the returns derived from the canals brought into existence by them, which were such as, from a single canal, to pay for the maintenance of twelve thousand horsemen."

The first canal operations of the East India Company commenced in 1821; among the latest are those on the Godavery Delta, which have been applied not only to irrigation, but also to navigation. Of these a very instructive account has been published by Colonel Arthur Cotton, from which it is very evident that enterprises of this nature are highly remunerating to capitalists, most beneficial to the natives, and admirably calculated to develop the general resources of India. He thus describes the locality:—

The Godavery river, in the delta of which they (the works) are situated, rises in the Western Ghats, not far from Bombay, about 3000 feet above the sea, and, flowing in an unusually direct course about 800 miles, enters the Bay of Bengal at the port of Coringa, a good harbour, and the only one on

the east coast of the peninsula, 400 miles north of Madras. The country drained by it is 130,000 square miles in extent. The extreme discharge of the river is about 150 million cubic yards per hour, and its least about half a million.

It is evident that the soil of a tropical delta, exposed to a powerful sun, requires, as the first condition of fertility, a copious supply of water. The works on the Godavery will irrigate 12,000,000 acres, giving two crops annually, yielding a million and a half sterling, and providing work and wages for one-fourth more cultivators than could be employed without these improvements. The transit of goods, costing by land 3½d. per ton per mile, will be reduced to one-eighth of a penny when carried by canal. The saving here effected, and the passenger traffic, are put down at a million. The channel leading from the weir or annicut to the port of Coringa was opened in 1851, when 752 boats passed through it; but in 1855 the number had increased to 8349, besides 2270 rafts of timber and bamboos. Within this brief period Colonel Cotton claims credit, 1st, for an increase of revenue of 25 per cent in a season of severe drought; 2nd, an increase of trade to the extent of 600 per cent—that increase continuing unchecked in a season when other districts could not have supplied themselves with food; 3rd, the increase of internal transit, probably fully twentyfold.

When the works contemplated are fully completed, they will afford a cheap communication between the coast and about ten millions of people; and, as connected with a rich wheat and cotton district, Coringa and its port must rise into commercial importance. It is calculated that a single square mile flooded with salt water, with an evaporation of nearly two yards deep, will make about 140,000 tons of salt in a season, perfectly white, at a cost of 2s. per ton; and this prime requisite of Hindoo life might be sold in the interior, paying a Government duty of one pound per ton, for 25s., where, at present, dirty black salt sells at £8 per ton, the duty being £2 10s. In this district coal has been found; the supply of timber is unlimited, and iron ore of the richest quality abounds. All that is wanted are capital and skill to render the delta of the Godavery and the port of Coringa one of the most flourishing territories in the world.

India is an unbounded field of enterprise. The Western Irrigation Company is already in existence, and the Bombay Government has granted to them three-fourths of the increase of revenue from the lands irrigated. According to the estimates of Colonel Cotton* "this would have already realised to a company in the delta of the Godavery twenty-five per cent, while the works were yet in progress." All the evidence shows that hydraulic works in India afford a safer and more remunerating investment for capital than any railway in Europe; and, if by irrigation and canalisation we enrich the natives of India, we are opening up markets for our manufactures which can never be closed by hostile tariffs. Too little attention has been directed to this splendid country, whose immense population, industrially elevated, would prove more valuable customers to British trade than all other nations united with whom we at present hold commercial relations.

We stated last week, in anticipation of the terms on which the £5,000,000 Loan would be negotiated, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, by postponing it from February, when he was urged to borrow all that he would want for the year, had saved the public 2 per cent on the whole sum. In fact, however, the Loan was on Monday negotiated on more favourable terms than we had expected, and the Chancellor has saved the public 3 per cent. on the sum, or £150,000. The terms offered by the contractors were to give £100 in money for every £108 3s. in Consols, which, with the dividend from January, was nearly equivalent to Consols being at 92½. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer's minimum was above this. He would give only £107 10s. 7d. in Consols for every £100 in money, equivalent to Consols being at 93. After a little consideration the Chancellor's offer was accepted, and he must be considered, although the scrip of the new Loan has since been at a premium of 2½, to have made a very good bargain for the public.

PREPARATIONS FOR PEACE REJOICINGS.—The preparations at Somerset-house, the Ordnance-office, Pall-mall, the War Department, Admiralty, Horse Guards, and other public offices, are on a most extensive and magnificent scale. In the City great activity prevails, and some hundreds of workmen are employed in erecting gas fittings at the Bank of England, the Guildhall, Mansion-house, East India-house, Custom-house, the halls of the various companies, and the establishments of banking and other companies. In anticipation of the immense concourse that will press into the Green-park, the authorities have deemed it advisable to form five additional openings into that park; three from Piccadilly—one opposite Devonshire-house, another facing Down-street, the third opposite Apsley-house, the fourth on Constitution-hill, facing the entrance to the park from Grosvenor-place, and the fifth near Sutherland-house. Each of these is sixty feet in width. It being estimated that the quantity of gas which will be required on the night of the illumination will be nearly double that used on ordinary occasions, the various gas companies have made arrangements to preclude the possibility of there being any deficiency in that article on the night in question; and in the leading thoroughfares additional pipes are being laid down close to the kerb.

THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.—The 202nd festival of the Sons of the Clergy, which was instituted two centuries ago (in 1655), took place on Wednesday, in St. Paul's Cathedral. The anniversary was celebrated, as usual, by a full choral service—in which the choir of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and St. George's (Windsor) assisted—under the direction of Mr. Goss, organist of St. Paul's Cathedral. The members and friends of the corporation, to the number of about 150, dined together in the evening in Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle-street, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. The society now assists annually, by pensions and donations, about 1200 persons, including clergymen, their widows, aged single daughters, and children. The total amount of voluntary subscriptions to the funds of the society during the year was £10,175, exclusively of the permanent income from real and personal property.

COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND.—A preliminary meeting, at which the Rev. Dr. McNeill, of Liverpool, presided, was held on the 8th inst., for the formation of an institution in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, to be called "The College for the Blind." The principles of the foundation are to be those of the Established Church; but the specific teachings of the Church shall not be insisted upon in the case of pupils whose parents or guardians object to it; and that on Sunday the parents or guardians of such pupils shall be at liberty to take or send them to any place of worship they please. It is remarkable that, whilst there are several institutions of an eleemosynary nature for the blind of the poorer classes, there is no establishment where blind members of the independent classes can be sent as pupils. It is well known that the blind are very partial to the society of their fellow-sufferers, and it is believed that the proposed college would be of very great advantage to many families unable to provide a tutor for a blind child at home.

THE WOUNDED ITALIANS.—We are glad to find, upon inquiry at the Charing-cross Hospital, that the four Italians so seriously wounded by the assassin Foschini have, under the judicious care of Mr. Hancock, perfectly recovered from their wounds, and have left the hospital.

* "Profits upon British Capital expended on Indian Public Works, &c." By Colonel Arthur Cotton, late Chief Engineer of Madras. London: Richardson Brothers, Cornhill.

MUSIC.

In our last Number we recorded the auspicious reopening of HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, and the triumphant début of Alboni; for in the light of a debut her appearance, after so long an absence, may be regarded. On Thursday of last week she had another triumph as *Rosina* in the "Barbière di Siviglia"—a character suited in every respect to her powers both as a singer and an actress. She sings the music, which is written for a mezzo soprano voice, precisely as the composer has written it, and without resorting to those transpositions, alterations of passages, and other shifts to which the soprano singers who perform the part are compelled to resort. Her *aria d'entrata*, "Una voce poco fa," was an exquisite display of the most graceful and finished execution. The air which she introduced into the singing lesson—a pretty melody of Hummel's, with variations—was so marvellously brilliant, so full of rich and original fancies, that it threw the house into a tumult of astonishment and delight. She was attired in a dark Spanish dress, which became her figure admirably, looked exceedingly well, and acted with ladylike elegance and spirit—all that the character requires. She was called for between the acts and at the end of the opera, and cheered most enthusiastically. As a whole this most gay and agreeable of all comic operas was well performed—Calzolari being *Count Almaviva*, Belletti *Figaro*, and Zucconi *Bartolo*. The first two were capital; the third was at least respectable. The "Barbière" has the peculiarity of having but one female character.

On Saturday night the "Barbière" was repeated with the same éclat as before; and on Tuesday Alboni appeared as *Amina*, in "La Sonnambula," for the first time in England. She has latterly, on the Continent, betaken herself to the performance of soprano parts; having, by assiduous application and practice, effected a great extension in the upper part of her voice, without, however, losing the beautiful low tones with which nature has gifted her. She has also entered upon a more ambitious career as an actress, essaying with success characters which demand greater dramatic power than she formerly seemed to possess. Of these characters *Amina* is one; *Leonora*, in the "Favorita," is another; and *Fidès*, in the "Prophète," is a third. *Amina* we have now seen, and the others we trust we shall see shortly. In the performance of this interesting heroine Alboni certainly showed qualities as an actress—the power of expressing feeling and even passion—for which at one time we should not have given her credit; but, dramatically speaking, she is certainly not equal to Grisi, Jenny Lind, Persiani, Sontag, and other favourite representatives of the part. Musically speaking, however, she is not surpassed by any of them, not even by Lind herself. Her soprano voice, so beautifully joined to her natural contralto register that it is impossible to perceive the slightest break in the continuity of her entire scale, gives her a compass almost unlimited; a power which she uses in the incomparable richness, variety, and originality of her florid embellishments. She sang the brilliant finale, "Ah, non giunge!" as no one has been able to sing it since the days of Malibran. At its conclusion the house rang with acclamations; and, when called upon to repeat it, she did so with new variations, still more rich and fanciful than before. The part of *Elvino* was well supported by Calzolari; and Signor Beneventano, one of the strangers, appeared to advantage in *Count Rodolpho*. His action was easy and gentlemanlike, and he sang the well-known air, "Vi ravviso," very beautifully.

On all the evenings we have mentioned the house was as crowded, and had as brilliant and fashionable an aspect, as on the opening night.

NOTHING in the way of novelty has recently been produced at the Royal Italian Opera. But the series of weekly concerts set going at the CRYSTAL PALACE is to be taken in connection with that theatre, for these concerts were originated by Mr. Gye, with the view of enabling him to defray the immense expenses of his establishment, and thus to keep his company, orchestra, and chorus together. This object, we understand, he has accomplished for the present season. The whole musical strength of the Royal Italian Opera is engaged by the Crystal Palace Company, who receive the proceeds, paying Mr. Gye a certain fixed sum, of great amount and sufficient for his purpose; while the concerts promise to be a good speculation for the Crystal Palace shareholders. Twelve weekly concerts have been announced, and the first of them took place on Friday, last week. They are excellently got up; judicious provisions having been made for the accommodation of the audience as well as the effect of the music. The orchestra is placed in front of the great curtain which divides the tropical department, with a proscenium, like that of a theatre; while the vast space in front of the orchestra is partly covered overhead with oiled cloth, which diminishes the echo, and favours the transmission of sound. The acoustical properties of this extemporised concert hall are admirable. On the day above mentioned every note of the music distinctly reached the ears of an assemblage estimated at six thousand persons. There must necessarily be great sameness in concerts of this kind. As all the performers belong to the Royal Italian Opera, the music, of course, consists almost entirely of songs, concerted pieces, and choruses from the various operas performed at that theatre. To the regular opera-goers such performances cannot, in a mere musical point of view, have much attraction. They derive an additional interest, however, from the beautiful locality in which they are held; and moreover, the great bulk of the audience are by no means regular opera-goers; and things, to others trite and familiar, to them have all the freshness of novelty. At this concert Grisi, Jenny Ney, Bosio, Maral, Didié, Mario, Gardoni, Graziani, and Formis, sang many of their most favourite pieces, accompanied by the magnificent orchestra. The madrigal "Down in a flowery vale," was an exquisite performance, and was loudly encored. Mozart's aria, "Della sua pace," sung by Signor Gardoni, was also very effective; as was the scena from the "Freischütz" by Mdme. Jenny Ney. Mdme. Bosio displayed her powerful voice to advantage in the cavatina, "Ernani Involami," and Mdme. Didié, whose fine impersonation of *Orsini*, in "Lucrezia Borgia," is familiar to most opera-goers, sang the "Brindisi" with great éclat. One of the most refined performances, however, was the duet from "Linda di Chamouni," sung by Signor Gardoni and Mdme. Maral. The two voices mingled in the most charming manner, leaving the audience at a loss which to admire most—the pure and birdlike soprano of the one, or the rich tenor of the other. Signor Graziani gave his "Il Balen," which, as usual, was encored; and Mario, though not in good voice, sang the serenade from "Don Pasquale" in a delightful manner. The day (in the midst of a course of wet and gloomy weather) was bright and genial, and everything conducted to the general satisfaction.

BENEDICT'S ANNUAL CONCERT, at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday evening, was crowded to the doors with fashionable people, attracted by the never-failing magic of Jenny Lind's name. The prices being very high, the fortunate *bénéficiaire* must have pocketed a good round sum. The concert, however, might easily have been better. Madame Goldschmidt sang little, and what she did sing was not much calculated to bring out those powers of style and expression which are the great and peculiar charm of this incomparable artist. Her first piece was a duet with Belletti, composed by Benedict on Styrian airs; the second, a scena from Rossini's opera, "Il Turco in Italia;" and the third, Meyerbeer's little French duet, "La Mère Grand," which she sang with Madame Viardot. In all of them she sang with great brilliancy—her *tours de force* and feats of vocal strength were, indeed, often marvellous; and her efforts were rewarded with enthusiastic applause. There was a complete and excellent orchestra; and instrumental solos were played on the piano, by Messrs. Goldschmidt and Benedict; on the violin, by Ernst; and on the violoncello, by Piatti.

A VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT took place on Wednesday last at the Réunion des Arts, which was distinguished by a selection of classical music. The performances of Madame Mattmann, a German pianist, new to this country, occasioned great excitement. The audience were evidently unprepared for so brilliant an entertainment, and testified their admiration by unmistakable signs.

MADAME PUZZI'S ANNUAL CONCERT, at Willis's Rooms, on Saturday last, was, as usual, attended by a great assemblage of fashionable company; this lady having a very extensive connection, and being held in great esteem as an excellent vocal instructress. She was assisted by all the principal singers of Her Majesty's Theatre, together with Mdme. Clara Novello, Mdme. Viardot, Reichardt, and several other eminent artists. Many beautiful pieces (chiefly from Italian operas) were sung, and warmly applauded.

THE THEATRES.

ADELPHI.—A very pleasant little farce, called "A Bottle of Smoke," was produced at this theatre on Thursday night. *Lucy Merton* (Miss Wyndham) is the occupant of a room on the second floor in the neighbourhood of Soho, and gains her livelihood by painting flower-pieces for sale in the bazaars. Her little room is the perfection of neatness, and her landlady, *Mrs. Brown* (Mrs. Stokes), gives her an excellent character before her introduction to the audience. *Mrs. Brown* has been invited to tea, and whilst arranging the tea things confesses to her dislike to some invisible minx who occupies

her third floor. *Miss Merton* has (of course) a lover—*Mr. Edward Cambricson* (Mr. Wright), a well-to-do linendraper, and proprietor of Merino House. He is somewhat of a jealous temperament, and is slightly disturbed at the absence of *Lucy*, and on her return makes this feeling apparent to his lady-love. A little tiff ensues, and *Cambricson*, by way of atonement, runs off to Hanway-yard to purchase muffins. *Lucy* has a secret, and during Mr. *Cambricson's* absence she retires to her bedchamber, taking with her a favourite fuchsia—her room is filled with flowers—the first gift of Mr. *Cambricson*. Laden with muffins, Mr. *C.* returns; but his jealousy is again aroused by the smell of tobacco, and the distant glimpse of a stout gentleman entering the house of *Mrs. Brown* on a visit (as we afterwards learn) to the invisible minx aforesaid. *Lucy* re-enters, and *Cambricson* is becoming reassured of her fidelity, when, picking up the handkerchief of the lady, he detects the smell of tobacco. He becomes furious, and the lady indignant. *Lucy* leaves the room in a huff, and *Cambricson* retreats to the landing to await the egress of his rival. *Lucy's* secret is now revealed. She brings forth her pet fuchsia, which has appeared of late drooping and unhealthy; and, having consulted the editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle*, she is told that the disease may be arrested by the free use of tobacco. To preserve *Cambricson's* treasured gift she has purchased a cigar, and the use of this leads to an equivocal which very agreeably brings the "Bottle of Smoke" to a successful termination. Mr. Wright never acted better. He was very funny, and the grotesque tenderness which he displayed throughout was very amusing. *Lucy Merton* was admirably played by Miss Wyndham. There is a naturalness about the acting of this young lady which is very delightful, and an attention to the minor details of her characters which merits commendation; and we are glad to have the opportunity of declaring her complete success as *Lucy Merton*. The piece was put upon the stage with great care, and its reception on Thursday night must have been most satisfactory to all concerned.

CREMORNE GARDENS.—The new pictorial additions, and the amusements of the circus and ballet theatre, in these gardens, prove very attractive. The large building, 300 feet in length, is nearly completed in the Ashburnham grounds; here will be the American Flower Show, the plants for which cover nearly an acre of ground.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

EPSOM and its great yearly problem, which is to be solved at three p.m. on Wednesday, for the seventy-sixth time since Sir Charles Bunbury led his Diomed back to scale, quite overshadows every other description of sport for the week. Oxford will have a busy boating time of it from Monday till Saturday; the Royal Mersey Yacht Club will hold their opening trip on Thursday; and the M.C.C. and ground will play Kent, at Lord's, on Monday; but other important fixtures, aquatic and cricketing, there are none.

Lambourne is in the Woodcote Stakes at Epsom on Tuesday, in which Tricolor, Apathy, and Robalion figure; but the other minor races at this meeting possess no great interest, with the exception of the Cup, where Sultan, Typee, Manganese, Stork, and Saucebox are engaged; the Two-Year-Old Stakes, in which Madame Cliquot has 5 lb. extra; and the Great Surrey Foal Stakes, which includes Tyre, West Langton, The Prince, and Peter Wilkins in its ranks.

The Derby betting at Bath, which has always been to Epsom what Warwick was of yore to Doncaster, ran all in favour of Artillery and Coroner, while the support accorded to Wentworth and Fazzoletto was not very decided. If the weather takes up after this deluge of wet we shall have the ground in magnificent order, and already the good people of Westminster are beginning to see huge green four-horse vans dashing over their crazy bridge, and reminding them that the great Surrey carnival is once more at hand. Although little can be known for certain before Tuesday, it does not at present seem likely that more than twenty-three out of the 213 nominations will descend in file with Mr. Hibbard into the fatal glen. Taking them as they stand on the list we should select Sugarplum, Pretty Boy, Fly-by-Night, The Courtier, Bird-in-Hand, West Langton, Fazzoletto, Artillery, Wentworth, Newington, The Prince, Puck, Leamington, Ellington, Rogerthorpe, Mr. Verdant Green, Yellow Jack, Astrolagus, Aleppo, Coroner, Cannobie, Vandermeulin, Early Morn, and Peter Wilkins as those who will compose the future field. Fly-by-Night and Fazzoletto reached Leatherhead on Wednesday night; and it is said that Nat and Bartholomew will ride them. Sim Templeman rides Cannobie instead of Bird-in-Hand, for whom he was originally engaged, as the party did not think he made enough use of the horse in the Two Thousand, and put up "Ben" at Chester in consequence. As Vandermeulin is said to have been beaten in his trial with King of Trumps, we believe that it may be arranged for Job Marson to ride Bird-in-Hand, and Joe Dockeray Vandermeulin. George Oates will, of course, be on West Langton; Basham on Artillery; T. Sherwood on one of Mr. Gratwicke's horses (about whose relative goodness there is much reserve), and perhaps Sly on the other; Wells on Coroner; probably John Mann on Mr. Verdant Green; Aldcroft on Ellington; Alfred Day on Wentworth; Sam Rogers, we believe, on Rogerthorpe; and Ashmall on Peter Wilkins.

Newmarket sends only one horse; to wit, the "great mystery man," Mr. Verdant Green, who many declare is certain to immortalise Cuthbert Bede's works in the Epsom bed-roll of winners. He looks well, and has done plenty of work in secret; and in the absence of a regular trial they have had a most satisfactory "dust-up" among their string, which is said to have given Messrs. Hobson and Goodwin the highest hopes, especially as the field is so moderate this year. Fly-by-Night is also in capital form, and we still think that he will be John Scott's horse on the day, and that the commoner will beat the peer of that ilk in their places. Wentworth impresses us with strong Dervish ideas; and, as they have really nothing good at Danebury to try him with, we feel a presentiment that his trial will prove a mere Coldenick one. His race, like that of Cannobie's at Newmarket, is a bad omen for his backers. Yellow Jack can stay for a week, but he has no speed; and Coroner is, we should fancy, rather small for his work, although we have seen a "Little Wonder" and "Velocipede pony" win here. Artillery we have never liked, and he, too, has no trial horse; while we have reason to think that Newington will be Mr. Gratwicke's chosen one. Bird-in-Hand is the most racing-looking animal of the lot; the damp May has been all in his favour; and hence, if the ground continues sound, there are many things which would surprise us less than seeing him just turn the Ascot tables on to Fly-by-Night.

Scarcely a bet has been laid on the Oaks; and if, out of the 137, Intimidation (Nat), Mary Copp (Bartholomew), Oltenitza, Flyaway, Kalipyge, and Mincepie (with A. Day on the best), one of Mr. Howard's (Wells), Byrre, Tyne (G. E. Sharp), Bonner and Buxom, Comedy, and four or five others appear at the post, it will be about the mark. Still, Mincepie's inability to stay, and the long illness of Mary Copp, the 3400-guinea mare, has made the race such an utter toss-up that the field may be a very large one. We expect no medium in it, seeing that, as things now stand, the £3500 or so may be destined for some owner who really never dreams of having anything more than a very third-rate filly in his stable. If ever there was a year in which an owner ought not to grudge an extra £40 to take his filly to Epsom, and pay a "pony" and a jockey for a start, that year has clearly arrived.

BATH AND SOMERSET COUNTY RACES.—TUESDAY.

Lansdown Stakes.—Curious, 1. Romeo, 2. Three-year-old Biennial Stakes.—Stork, 1. King Cob, 2. Two-year-old Biennial Stakes.—Lambourn, 1. The Vigil, 2. Somersetshire Stakes.—Cerva, 1. Alonzo, 2. Members' Plate.—Freckle, 1. Wantage, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

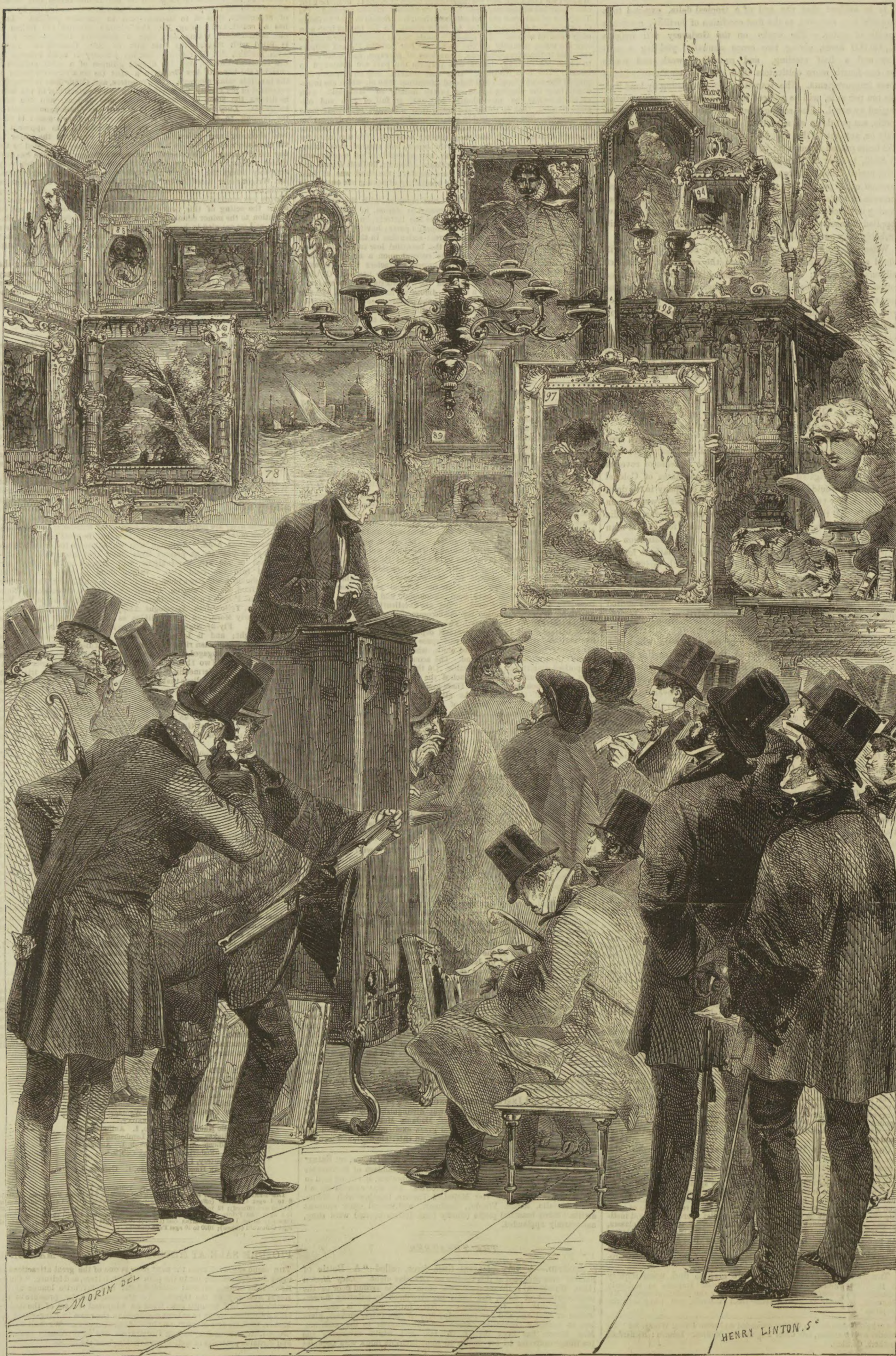
Aristocratic Handicap.—Sirocco, 1. Anthracite, 2. Weston Stakes.—Pomona, 1. Lambourn, 2. Bath Handicap.—Speed the Plough, 1. Alonzo, 2. Gold Cup.—Fisherman, 1. King Cob, 2. Shorts.—Battery, 1. Dyrham Park Handicap.—Romeo, 1. Curious, 2.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY.

THE DERBY.—3 to 1 agst Wentworth (taken and offered); 5 to 1 agst Fazzoletto (taken); 8 to 1 agst Cannobie (offered); 9 to 1 agst Artillery (taken); 12 to 1 agst Vandermeulin (taken and offered); 12 to 1 agst Coroner (offered); 15 to 1 agst Fly-by-Night (offered); 20 to 1 agst The Prince (taken); 30 to 1 agst Ellington (taken); 40 to 1 agst Verdant Green (taken); 50 to 1 agst Barbarina colt (taken); 50 to 1 agst Astrolagus (taken); 1000 to 15 agst Colowold (taken); 1000 to 10 agst Puck (taken).

PICTURE SALE AT MESSRS. CHRISTIE AND MANSON'S.

THE scene engraved upon the next page is one of the great attractions of every London season; for to the man of art, letters, and leisure, "Christie's" is as much a national establishment and favourite lounge as the Royal Academy or the Opera. We are compelled, by pressure of the week's news, to defer until next week an historical *resumé* of the important collections which have been dispersed in the room in King-street by Messrs. Christie and Manson, and by their predecessors. We shall add, at present, that the accompanying illustration has been recently sketched, and contains portraits of well-known *habitués* of the rooms.



PICTURE SALE AT MESSRS. CHRISTIE AND MANSON'S, KING-STREET, ST. JAMES'S.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE).

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

ADDITIONS TO THE ASSYRIAN SCULPTURES.

ANOTHER fine collection of Assyrian sculptures has arrived in England, and has been deposited in the British Museum. A portion only of them is now exhibited, but arrangements are in progress to admit the public into the cellars where they must remain until a becoming gallery is provided for them. They consist of about seventy slabs, chiefly selected from the North Palace at Kouyunjik, discovered in 1854 by Mr. Hormuzd Rassam, the companion and friend of Mr. Layard. It must be not a little gratifying to the pioneer of Assyrian research to find, through his example, an Oriental—generally indifferent to all works of art—so thoroughly interested in the undertaking and impregnated with the English energy to carry his individual labours to a successful conclusion. In 1852 Mr. Rassam was appointed by the Trustees of the British Museum to take charge of the excavations at Nineveh, and returned once more to Mosul. The difficulties he had to encounter were by no means slight. For several years his predecessor had tunnelled through the most promising spots of the Assyrian mounds, and accumulated the works which have astonished and gratified the English nation. If success attended

his appointment ceased, when, almost in despair, he tried once more an old abandoned trench on the north side of the mound. He had not proceeded a yard before he came upon the first of a series of chambers and passages lined with the most exquisite bas-reliefs which have yet reached England. With redoubled energy he prosecuted his work, and previous to leaving Assyria he had the satisfaction of uncovering what then appeared the whole of the palace of Asshur-bani-pal, the grandson of Sennacherib, and to pack and dispatch to England a selection, made by Sir H. Rawlinson, from the best fruits of Assyrian sculpture. Until the arrival of the slabs in England there was little chance of Mr. Rassam's exertions being appreciated, and now that they have reached us, he is far away on the shores of the Red Sea. We, therefore, more readily bear testimony to the value of his services, and record our gratification, for his sake, as well as for the nation's, that success at last rewarded his perseverance and dispelled the anxiety which he must have suffered during so many months of discouraging labour.

The slabs from the walls of the North Palace are less injured by fire than those of the other palaces; the sculptures are in higher relief, more elaborate and diversified. We have a continuous series, with but one break, of twenty-three slabs, depicting a Royal Lion hunt. The animals are portrayed in every variety of posture, and are sculptured with surprising vigour. In one case the lion has sprung upon the King's chariot, and, foiled in his revenge, madly grasps in his terrible jaws the chariot-wheel, while the King, guarded by spearmen, dispatches him. On other slabs the lion is spread about in various attitudes of lingering agony, pierced to death by the Royal huntsman. A lioness is most beautifully portrayed resting on her fore paws, with outstretched head, vainly endeavouring to gather up her wounded limbs. Several lions are shown, bristling with arrows, vomiting blood (see Engraving). There is a very vigorous scene of a lion at close quarters with the King, who stabs him in the throat with a dagger. We find also in these sculptures good evidence that the Kings of Assyria were not genuine huntsmen. They did not seek the lion and hunt him in his own jungle, but had him trapped and reserved for special occasions. A cage containing a lion is shown on one slab, surmounted by a small box holding a man, whose office it was to raise a sliding door, and afford egress to the lion. At the opposite end of the cage is a bar, like the pole of a carriage, to which beasts were doubtless harnessed to drag the "sport" to some convenient spot, where, surrounded by double lines of spearmen and dogs, shown on these slabs, the King, with little danger, let fly his arrows at the noble beasts.

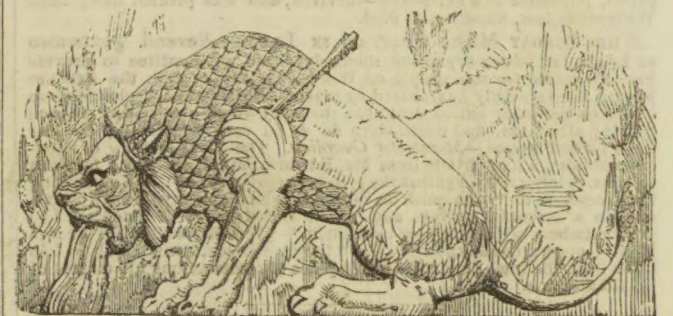
On three slabs an Assyrian campaign against some nomadic tribe is delineated. The Assyrians are taking their encampment, setting fire to their tents and people, and carrying off the women captive. The Arab wears no head dress, and simply a cloth round their loins. They ride on dromedaries, and are easily distinguished from their conquerors. Seven other slabs of this series were made over to the French, and now lie perishing at the bottom of the Tigris. Three continuous slabs represent architectural subjects—a triple wall with crenelated battlements; a temple, with its columns resting on the backs of human-headed bulls and lions, or dogs, &c. In some instances the bases of the columns are large sculptured torus mouldings, precisely similar to those found in the North Palace at Kouyunjik, at Khorsabad, and at the South West Palace at Nimrod. The capitals are much decayed, but resemble two Ionic capitals, one surmounting the other. Various conjectures have been started as to the materials of which the original columns were composed. It is generally supposed to have been wood, which was consumed by the fire, or has rotted away since the destruction of the palaces. It was difficult, however, to reconcile the inferior appearance of this material with the marble-lined walls. M. Place lately discovered at Khorsabad, near a pair of these vases, a roll of thin copper, which may remove the difficulty we have mentioned. In its decoration it imitated the trunk of a palm-tree. Close beside it he found some scraps of thin gold, which fitted exactly over the naked ornament on the copper. It seems probable, therefore, that the wood columns were coated with the latter metal to receive a thin covering of fine gold—(He overlaid the posts with fine gold—II Chronicles iii, 7.)

One of these architectural slabs portrayed a viaduct over a stream, consisting of three arch-shaped, pointed openings, but they are not arches, having no radiating joints or voussoirs. They are formed by horizontal courses projecting beyond each other as they rise, as in the Treasury of Atreus at Mycenae. The truly-formed arch was, nevertheless, known both to the Assyrians and Babylonians and still exists perfect at Khorsabad and Mughyer, Lower Chaldee, in a building erected some 1000 years B.C. On the same slab is represented an altar and a memorial statue very similar



THE KING IN HIS CHARIOT.

to that found in the South-East Palace at Nimrod, which also forms part of the present collection. There are likewise four interesting slabs portraying a garden containing an African, with feathered head-dress, leading a tame lion, and surrounded by many curious botanical specimens. We have engraved two of these slabs. A lion and lioness are depicted among various trees and flowers. There is the palm-tree with its characteristic trunk;

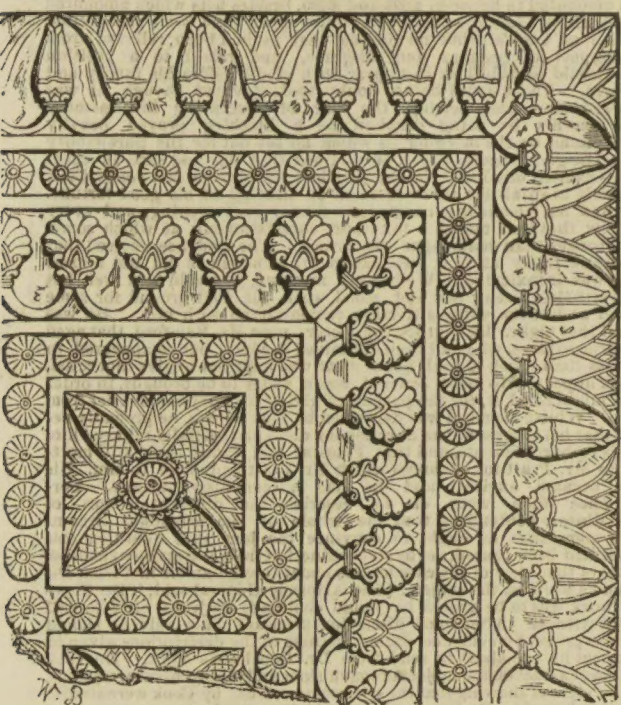


WOUNDED LION.

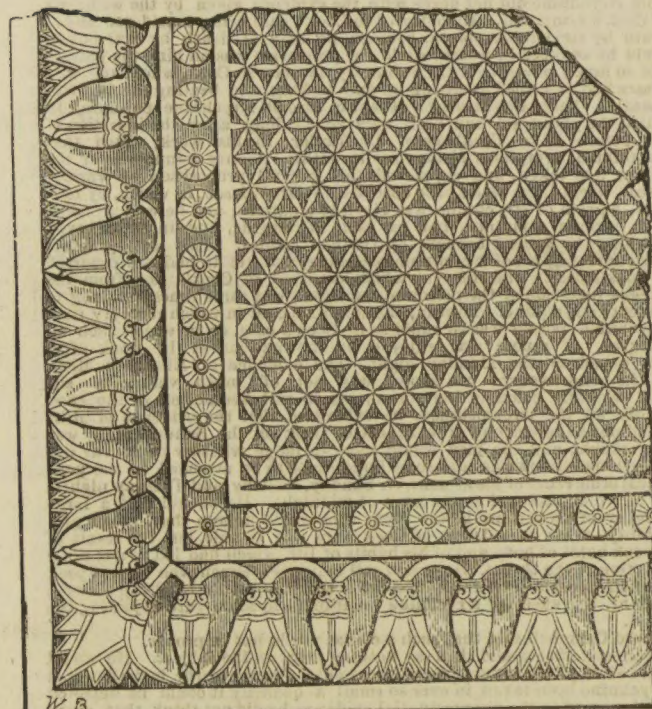
the grape-vine climbs round what we should imagine to be a fir-tree, were it not that none grow even in the mountains adjoining Nineveh, much less in the vicinity of the date palm. In another room in this Northern Palace the sculptures recorded the Conquest of Suians. Half of the slabs relating to it are now in the British Museum, the remainder are with the ill-fated French collection. We have selected a specimen of this series. It is most elaborately cut, and full of rich detail. The King is in



PART OF THE GARDEN.



PAVEMENT SLABS FROM ASSHUR-BANI-PAL.



the new expedition, the result would have been received as a natural consequence; but, if unsuccessful, no amount of energy, perseverance, or labour would have shielded the conductor of the expedition from undeserved blame, more freely bestowed, too, perhaps, because he was a foreigner in an Englishman's position. And yet the discoveries are in a great measure the result of good fortune, which no intelligence can command. The appearance of the mounds is nearly uniform. There are but slight undulations on the surface—sometimes, it is true, indicating the position of the ancient remains beneath, but as often leading the explorer to extensive barren operations. We may likewise rest assured that Mr. Layard had previously profited by every hint which the appearance of the ground afforded. The site of the Northern Palace whence these, the finest sculptures, have been procured was the lowest and the least promising part of the mound. It had been long ago tried by Mr. Layard, who only came upon a drain, and then abandoned the trench. At the commence-



MODERN CHALDEAN AND ANCIENT ASSYRIAN.

ment of his labours Mr. Rassam cut several trenches there, but, finding no trace of sculpture, considered the excavation of it useless, and removed all his workmen to the southern part and centre of Kouyunjik, and to the large mound of Nimrod; meanwhile the second French expedition at Khorsabad had discovered scarcely anything but plain mud walls, human-headed bulls, and small metal articles, and M. Place, wishing to possess for the Louvre a collection of smaller and more varied sculpture, Sir H. Rawlinson, with liberality which does him honour, transferred to him the whole of the northern portion of Kouyunjik. M. Place was prevented by circumstances from availing himself of the offer, and confined his operations to Khorsabad. Mr. Rassam for months unceasingly exerted himself, but found nothing to return the nation for the money it had granted until three months before

his chariot with two attendants—one driving, the other holding an umbrella. An attendant walks by the side, and two more follow with fans. Four or five pavement-slabs are exhibited in the small room adjoining the Assyrian Gallery in the Museum. We have engraved two specimens. They are admirably cut, and the relative proportions of the different ornaments well studied.

Shortly before Mr. Rassam left Assyria he discovered also the entrance to the South-East Palace at Nimrod, where stand the two colossal statues which we have already engraved (ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, Nov. 3rd, 1855). Here he also found the statue of the god Nebo, bearing across its breast an inscription, stating that the statue was executed by a sculptor of Calah (Nimrod), and dedicated by him to his Lord Phalukha (Pal), King of Assyria, and to his lady, *Sammuramat*, Queen of the Palace.

In Mr. Layard's valuable "Handbook to the Assyrian Court of the Crystal Palace" he notices a similarity between the Chaldean language and that of the ancient Assyrians:—"A corrupted dialect of the same tongue is still spoken by the Nestorian Chaldean tribes who inhabit the mountains of Kurdistan and the neighbourhood of the ruins of Nineveh." It has frequently been remarked that the modern inhabitants of Nubia closely resemble those depicted on the Egyptian walls. Not less remarkable is the likeness between the modern Chaldeans and the old Assyrians. To illustrate this perfectly we give, side by side, sketches of a Chaldean merchant of Mosul, and a head from one of the Nineveh sculptures.

Besides these Assyrian slabs, there has likewise reached England a collection of Babylonian antiquities, collected by Mr. Loftus, for the Assyrian Excavation Fund, and in a few months we may expect the concluding cargo of Assyrian sculptures—those found by Mr. Loftus, in a distinctly separated portion of the North Palace, and the inscription cut by that gentleman from the Sennacherib bulls recording the Assyrian campaign against Hezekiah.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 20, 1856.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M. 131 feet above sea level.	Thermometer.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Rain in Inches.	Mean Temperature of Wet Bulb.	Amount of Cloud (0-10).	Mean amount of Cloud (0-10).
May 14	29.330	61.7	45.2	0.096	47.7	48.3	9.0
" 15	29.318	56.5	45.3	0.102	46.7	47.2	8.5
" 16	29.319	60.8	38.8	0.005	47.8	46.0	8.5
" 17	29.428	57.5	42.1	0.090	45.6	44.7	6.6
" 18	29.242	56.9	37.7	0.225	43.9	43.9	7.8
" 19	29.507	59.7	41.9	0.089	46.9	46.3	5.3
" 20	29.898	68.7	39.2	0.005	51.6	49.5	2.0
Mean	29.435	60.3	41.5	0.036	47.2	46.6	7.3

The range of temperature during the week was 31° 0°.

The weather.—On the 14th and 15th, rainy; 16th, fine; 17th, rainy afternoon; 18th, showery; 19th and 20th, very fine.

The direction of the wind was—on 14th, S.W., became S. at 5 a.m., S.S.E. at 9 a.m., W. at 10 a.m., S.W. at 11 a.m., W.S.W. at 2 p.m., W. at 5 p.m., S.W. at 12 a.m. on 15th S. at 3 a.m., S.S.W. at 10 a.m., W. at 12 a.m., N.W. at 8 a.m., N.N.W. at 11 a.m., W.N.W. at 12 a.m., N.W. at 2 a.m., W. at 6 p.m., W.N.W. at 8 p.m., W. at 10 a.m., N.W.S.W. at 5 a.m. on 17th, S.W. at 6 a.m., S. at 9 a.m., S.W. at 12 a.m., W. at 12 p.m., S.W. at 6 p.m., S.S.W. at 5 a.m. on 18th, S.S.E. at 6 a.m., S. at 6 a.m., S.S.E. at 8 a.m., S. at 10 a.m., S.W. at 11 a.m., W. at 5 p.m.; N.W. at 10 a.m. on 19th, W. at 6 p.m.; S.W. at 4 p.m. on 20th, S.S.W. at 5 a.m., and S. at 9 a.m. On the 14th, 17th, and 18th, much negative electricity; during the remainder of the week, positive. Hallstorms on the 14th, 17th, and 18th; thunder on the 14th, 15th, and 17th. A mock moon at 2.32 a.m. on the 19th; a solar halo on the 17th; and a lunar halo on the 20th.

On the 18th, violent S.W. gale from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m.; then the gale became W.; ceased at 8 p.m. Most violent at 2 p.m., being 10½ lb. on the square foot.

E. J. Lowe.

EXTRAORDINARY STATE OF THE WEATHER.—The tops of several mountains in the Dublin and Wicklow range are now covered with snow. On Saturday last the weather was very severe, several heavy showers having fallen in rapid succession. A tremendous flood rolled down the Liffey near its source, between eleven and twelve o'clock, although comparatively little rain had fallen during the morning. The flood spread over the fields in the neighbourhood of Kildare, and soon dispersed the anglers who had collected in considerable numbers along that beautiful stream.

ALTAR-CHAIRS FOR MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL.—Two elaborately carved oak altar-chairs have just been presented to this cathedral church, by William Andrews, Esq., of Ardwick. The style adopted is the Late Decorated; portions being copied from examples in Canterbury and Winchester Cathedrals, and ably executed by the Patent Carving Company at Lambeth. With the chairs Mr. Andrews has also presented an altar-cloth of crimson velvet, with the sacred monogram embroidered in the centre.

THE CHEAP NEWSPAPER PRESS.—Upon the repealing of the newspaper stamp duty several cheap daily newspapers were printed and issued in Nottingham. In a short time most of them declined; not even the great interest attached to the war in the Crimea could keep them alive. The most spirited paper, however—the *Daily Express*, as it was called, published at a halfpenny—survived, and was printed daily until Wednesday last, when it also died.

THE SUNDAY MUSIC QUESTION IN LEEDS.—Several gentlemen at Leeds last week organised themselves into a committee to provide Sunday music for the people on Woodhouse Moor; and, the expense having been speedily guaranteed by private subscription, a placard was issued on Saturday announcing that the band would play on the moor on Sunday afternoon, and continue to do so on each succeeding Sunday until further notice.—*Manchester Guardian*. The *Leeds Mercury* of Monday contains a long article from Mr. Edward Baines, assigning fourteen reasons, in large type, against the proposed performance; and entreating the promoters to "relinquish an intention which appears to have originated in a resentful feeling, and which would cause so much grief to great numbers of their fellow-townsmen."—[Woodhouse Moor is a large piece of open ground, known as the "lungs of Leeds," situated about two miles from the town, and a favourite place of resort among all classes of the inhabitants.]

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

UPWARDS of 200 labourers were last week discharged from the gun-factory department in Woolwich Arsenal.

The Russian trophies have been removed from the Dial-square of the Arsenal at Woolwich, and stored. The guns are to be cut up, and, after going through a certain analytical process, will be smelted and mixed with British gun-metal for casting purposes.

An order from the Horse Guards has been read to the whole of the troops belonging to the provisional battalion at Chatham, three successive parades, inviting candidates for the corps of Permanent Instructors in Musketry, in accordance with the regulations published some time since by direction of Lord Hardinge.

ORDERS have been issued by the Adjutant-General to commanding officers of regiments of Militia to send a return of the exact state of the corps at the time of its disembodiment, and all books received from any public department to be placed in the custody of the Adjutant. It is intended to commence the reduction by the disembodiment, without delay, of the several Scotch regiments.

The Adjutant-General, by a circular to commanding officers, has authorised extra practice ammunition at the rate of six rounds per man, per annum, for the purpose of promoting emulation between individual companies and regiments by shooting matches for prizes.

The steam gun-boats at Devonport are to be fitted with suitable spars and sails for a sea voyage, to render them independent of steam; and it is said they are to take an experimental cruise in the Channel.

The *Cadmus*, 20, one of the new class of steam screw-corvettes introduced into the navy, was launched on Monday afternoon, at Chatham dockyard, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. This vessel was laid down exactly twelve months ago, and has been built under the direction of Mr. F. J. Laird, master shipwright, under the superintendence of Sir Baldwin Walker, C.B., surveyor of the navy, and his sub-surveyors. Her armament will consist of twenty 8-inch 60 cwt. guns, nine feet in length, and one 68-pounder, of 95 cwt. and ten feet in length. She is to be immediately fitted for sea.

The Lords of the Admiralty have instructed the Commandant of the Royal Marines at Woolwich to assemble a board of officers, for the purpose of making such arrangements as they may see fit for placing the marine cantons on the same footing as those of other branches of the Army—namely, to discontinue the sale of spirits and have a fixed weekly rent, instead of the present privilege money for every ten men per month.

THE TRIAL OF WILLIAM PALMER.

(Continued from page 567.)

THE DEFENCE.

Mr. Serjeant Shee then addressed the jury for the defence. He said that only once before had it fallen to his lot to defend a fellow-creature on trial for his life. Such a task was calculated to try the coolest temper, and he was conscious that the least error of judgment on his part might consign the prisoner to a murderer's death and to public ignominy. It would be useless for him to conceal what they knew perfectly well, and which all their endeavours could not banish from their minds. They knew that during six long months an opinion had prevailed that John Parsons Cook had died from poison, and that the people had come to the conclusion that he had died by the hands of the prisoner. The authorities had felt so much alarm lest popular prejudice might render the trial unfair to the prisoner, that an Act of Parliament was passed, at the instance of the Government, bringing the trial before the fairest possible tribunal, and placing it in the hands of the law-officers of the Crown, instead of leaving it in private hands. Everything which the Legislature and the law officers could do to secure a fair and impartial trial in this case had been done; and, if justice should fail, it must be upon the law and the jury. He had no doubt that the jury would give a calm attention to the case; and he entered upon the defence with the most decided conviction that truer words were never spoken than when the prisoner at the bar said "Not Guilty." He thought he should be able to prove this by grappling with the prosecution at every step, and he would not leave unnoticed a single point adverted to by the Attorney-General. The ground taken by the prosecution was that Palmer prepared the body of Cook for death by the slow poison of antimony, and then dispatched him by the more fatal poison of strychnine. Before, however, he proceeded to grapple with the case of the Attorney-General, he wished to restore to its proper place in the discussion a fact which, though not concealed by the Attorney-General, had been thrown too much into the shade; viz., that strychnine was not found in the body of John Parsons Cook. If he died from strychnine he died between two hours of taking a very strong dose of it, and within a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes of the effects of that dose being visible in the convulsions. Now, it was not attempted to be shown that there was any dilution of the poison, or any rejection of it by vomiting, between death and the post-mortem examination of the body; and nothing would have been more easy than to find it if it had ever been administered. He did not discuss that part of the subject now, but he alluded to it in order that the jury might know what the course of his argument would be. He contended that Dr. Taylor and Dr. Rees had arrived at their conclusions by very partial examinations, those conclusions being, that after being taken the poison decomposed, and therefore was not found; but that was not the opinion of any eminent chemist but themselves. He would call before the jury several analytical chemists of the highest possible eminence in renunciation of that theory, and he would call before them Dr. Letheby, who would renounce Dr. Taylor's opinion as a heresy against medical belief. (The learned counsel mentioned a large number of most eminent men—amongst them Mr. Mummery of Leeds, Mr. Herapath, Dr. Williams, and Mr. Parker, whom he would call in disproof of Dr. Taylor.) The next point to which he would advert was, whether in the second week of November Palmer had any motive for destroying the life of Cook. It seemed to him from the evidence abundantly clear that Cook's death could never be of any advantage to Palmer, but that it would be to him the greatest calamity that could occur, inasmuch as it would prove to him immediate ruin. That it did result in Palmer's ruin they all knew. Unquestionably he was in a state of great embarrassment; and the Attorney-General had argued that Palmer had an interest in the death of Cook in consequence of those embarrassments; and that he took advantage of the period immediately after Shrewsbury races, when he could have had money, to destroy that life. The forgeries that had been shown were not upon Cook, but upon Palmer's own mother, and it was hardly to be supposed that those forgeries could go undetected. Palmer and Cook had been intimate as racing friends for two or three years. They were jointly interested in at least one race-horse, they generally went to the same hotels in race towns, and were generally known to bet the same way upon the same horses at the same race. The learned counsel went at length into the joint operations of Palmer and Cook in reference to Pratt and other bill-discounters. As long as there was good security Pratt and Pratt's clients would never have pressed Palmer for money—for how could money be better invested than at 40, or 50, or 60 per cent, with such security? That security of course entirely went when Cook died. At that time, moreover, Cook was making himself particularly useful to Palmer; for, when Pratt was pressing Palmer for money, Cook wrote to his agent to pay him £200, and, from a letter which was sent to Pratt just previously, it was stated that £300 had been sent up to Pratt, proving that Palmer and Cook were playing into each other's hands, and that Cook was assisting Palmer by placing his earnings at his disposal. It was clear, he thought, that Cook was a very convenient friend to Palmer, and that he could not possibly do without him. Cook died on the morning of the 21st of November. Palmer did everything he could for Cook—he attended him night and day, and called his friends together. This, therefore, was the cruellest charge that could be made against Palmer, unless he was at that time plotting his death. On the day following Palmer wrote to Pratt, who replied that the death of Cook would compel Palmer to look about to get up the £500 to pay the bill which would become due on the 2nd of December, thus bringing immediate ruin upon Palmer. Now, that was a transaction for the accommodation of Cook, and for that Palmer, on Cook's death, became primarily and solely responsible. He believed the Attorney-General would never have appeared in such a case had it not been for the strength of popular opinion, out of which arose the verdict of the coroner's jury, based upon the report of Professor Taylor. In reference to the bill of sale on Cook's horses, to which Cook's name was attached, the learned counsel suggested that Cook must have known of the circumstance, and that it was reasonable to suppose—Cook being in want of money—that his name was put upon the bill with his consent, more particularly as it was never suggested that there was any attempt to imitate Cook's handwriting. Moreover, Cook remained quiet about it three months, which proved that it was for Cook's accommodation, and that he had the best part of the money, while his death left Palmer responsible for the whole amount. There were many other circumstances which rendered it exceedingly unlikely that Palmer should desire the death of Cook. Amongst others was this—that there was £350 due from Weatherby, and if Cook died before it came Palmer would lose it altogether. As it was, a claim was made upon Cook in reference to it by Frail of Shrewsbury, and the executors had afterwards considerable trouble in recovering it. If Palmer forged the name of his mother, was it not a proof that he had no other resource than the good-nature, the easiness, and the folly of Cook? Was it credible, under those circumstances, that Palmer should desire to bring about him Cook's creditors—hard-dealing men—with solicitors, who had to be just in such a case, and not compassionate. Palmer was a man who had a shrewd knowledge of the world, a knowledge of his profession, a knowledge of chemistry, and the prosecution had put in a book with a view of showing what the effect of strychnine was. If he did, the jury would see presently what was the use of asking the question of Newton. This book was not concealed, but it was one in which it was obvious that pencil notes were made in the course of his professional studies in London.

Lord Campbell: The Attorney-General distinctly said that he did not place much reliance upon it.

Serjeant Shee said he used it for the purpose of showing that Palmer had so well studied his profession that he knew that strychnine would kill a man in such violent convulsions as to become the talk of a place like Rugeley for a month to come, and to be sure at last to result in his conviction. He was not in a position to run such a risk, for Walter Palmer, his brother, had died in August, and the policy Palmer held was really the only unpledged property he had. The Prince of Wales office took an enormous premium on Walter Palmer's life; and it was admitted that if the prisoner had saved that money, it would have been sufficient to cover all his debts. Must it not, therefore, be apparent that the very suspicion of another violent death would crush Palmer under such circumstances? He had from these facts a right to infer that Palmer had no interest in putting Cook to death; but that, on the contrary, in a pecuniary sense, he had every motive and interest that Cook should live. He submitted that that portion of the prosecution had failed. He should next proceed to inquire whether the symptoms of Cook before his death, and the appearances presented by his body after his death, were consistent with the theory of his having died from strychnine, and inconsistent with the theory of his having died from other and natural causes. Having directed the attention of the jury to the whole of the circumstances in connection with this part of the case, and brought them down to the post-mortem examination, he said he should be able to show, by incontrovertible evidence, that if the body had been opened in any dead-house death would have been found to be referable to the granules which were found in the spinal marrow. He complained that Dr. Taylor had relied upon the evidence of servant-maids and others at the coroner's inquest, and rejected the evidence of the medical man who had care of Cook, and had had the incredible imprudence to state upon oath that the pills given to Cook on Monday and Tuesday contained strychnine, and that he died from its effects, when all attempts to detect strychnine in the body had entirely failed. Upon that the verdict of "Wilful murder" was returned, and flew upon the wings of the press into every house in the United Kingdom. If science were thus allowed to come and dogmatise in our Courts—science not successful, but failing in its own tests, and bearing upon its forehead the motto that "a little learning is a dangerous thing"—what would be the security of any man's life? No doubt, if Dr. Taylor, after lengthened experience and a full knowledge of poison, had detected poison in the body of Cook, he might have been a very proper person to call as a witness; but it appeared that he had never seen the effects of

strychnine upon a single human being. Then, again, it was the merest assumption to say that Cook died from tetanus at all, for upon this point the medical men differed, as they differed on every other. It might be said that, if he denied that Cook died from tetanus, it was his duty to suggest some other theory; but he denied that position altogether.

The court, after an adjournment of twenty minutes, reassembled at two o'clock.

Serjeant Shee, in resuming his address, said he would direct the attention of the jury to the symptoms exhibited by Cook on the Tuesday night, according to the evidence of Mr. Jones and Elizabeth Mills. He would submit to the judgment of the jury, upon authorities which could not deceive them, that those symptoms were indicative of Cook having suffered general convulsions, and by no means from tetanus of any kind, or from strychnia. It frequently happened that the Almighty was pleased to inflict death upon man without leaving any trace whatever of any disease. The jury would bear in mind that Cook's bodily functions had been originally deranged. And let them consider what might have been the state of his mind. He went to the Shrewsbury races in imminent peril of leaving them a ruined man. The jury had heard that he was in the habit of obtaining loans at exorbitant interest, and he must have been at that time in circumstances of imminent embarrassment. Cook knew that if he had not some wonderful success at these races, by which his fortunes would be restored, he would become a sort of outcast from society. And it should be recollected that he was a man of delicate constitution—that he had been for a length of time cherishing the hope that Polestar, which was hardly his (for it was mortgaged), must become another person's if he did not win at the Shrewsbury races. Polestar won, and thereby put Cook in possession of the stakes, which amounted to between £300 and £400, besides bets which amounted to about £1000. Let the jury fancy what must have been the excited condition of Cook's mind on finding that he had been relieved from the prospect of beggary and disgrace, and raised to a position which would enable him to appear with credit before his family and the world. There could be no doubt that, devoted though he was to horse-racing and betting, the fear of disgracing the memory of his parents by being despised as a blackleg preyed heavily upon his mind on the morning on which he set out for the Shrewsbury races. The great success which he obtained that day had such an effect upon his excited mind that, as the jury had heard from Mr. Jones, Cook was unable to speak for three minutes on hearing of his good fortune. He invited his friends to a champagne dinner that evening, and every one knew that that meant a luxurious entertainment, at which something stronger than champagne was drunk. The evidence showed that Cook drank freely at that entertainment, although it did not appear that he was intoxicated. Wednesday morning was cold and wet, but he nevertheless went out and stood upon the cold ground for some time, till at last the witness Herring remonstrated with him. He was taken ill that night. He sent for the doctor—poor Mr. Bamford, that aged and infirm witness, who had been examined in court; but he appeared to know less than Cook himself about what was required to give him relief, for Cook appeared to have ordered warm water to be brought, in order that he might drink it, for the purpose of giving his body some relief from its pain. Whilst his mind was depressed by that illness, he probably reflected that his success at the Shrewsbury races had partially relieved him from his embarrassments, and that Polestar and Sirius were still mortgaged to Mr. Pratt for advances which Mr. Pratt had made to him. His nerves became excited, and he had a convulsive attack. Serjeant Shee then went on to describe the different stages of Cook's illness, contending that the whole of the attendant circumstances were such as ought to convince the jury that death in this instance had been caused, not by strychnine, but from general convulsions. In proof of that view of the case he was about to read an extract from Dr. Copeland's work on the subject. [The Attorney-General said, if Dr. Copeland's work was to be quoted he would challenge Serjeant Shee to call him as a witness. After some discussion, Serjeant Shee said he should be able to prove, by evidence, the correctness of the descriptions given in the extract he was about to read from Dr. Copeland's work. He then read a long extract on the subject of convulsions and their general symptoms, with the view of showing that the symptoms evinced by Cook were similar to those spoken of by Dr. Copeland, and which were of frequent occurrence.] The learned Serjeant then proceeded to argue that the description given by both Dr. Taylor and Dr. Christison of the appearances before death from strychnine did not agree with the evidence given by the witnesses of Cook's symptoms. He objected to Cook's case being considered one of death by strychnine poison, because no case of death by that poison could be adduced in which, while the paroxysm was on him, the patient had so much power over the voluntary muscles as Cook, whom the witnesses had described as sitting up and talking, and bearing the bed frequently. There was also no authentic case of strychnine poisoning in which the paroxysm had been delayed so long after the ingestion of the poison as in Cook's case. Dr. Taylor, in his work, stated that the tetanic symptoms always set in within twenty minutes after the poison was taken, and supported this general proposition by various cases. Then there was a case observed by Dr. Watson, in which, by mistake, a grain of strychnine was given to a patient, and he was attacked with tetanic symptoms half an hour afterwards, and in which even touching the patient brought on the convulsions. This last symptom was characteristic of strychnine poisoning, and yet it had not occurred in Cook's case. The interval which occurred in Cook's case from the alleged ingestion of the poison to the attack was three times too long to indicate strychnine. Thirdly, there was no case in which recovery from strychnine poison was so rapid as in Cook's case, or in which such an interval of repose was enjoyed by the patient as by Cook after the attack on the Monday night. The evidence of Elizabeth Mills, as he endeavoured to show, was not of much value, as she had evidently coloured her statements to suit her notion of the case. Under all the circumstances he submitted that the evidence of Mills could not be relied on. The illness of Cook on the Sunday night was remarkable, and the jury would have to judge whether there was not something remarkable and some importance to be attached to the periodical occurrence of his attacks, on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights; all of which occurred at the hour of midnight. He should call a large number of physicians before them who would depose that, in all probability, these convulsions of Cook were not tetanic, but the result of a weak habit of body and of his habits of life, which had led to a chronic affection of the throat. He would call many gentlemen who would speak of their experiments, and would show the jury, if his Lordship thought it right, the effect of strychnine on animals in some yard adjoining the court.

Lord Campbell said that such a course would not be proper.

Serjeant Shee would then say nothing more on the subject. He would call before them eminent men who would depose to the fact that had strychnine been taken in ever so small a quantity it could be detected. With regard to the circumstantial evidence, he did not think that much stress could be laid upon it. He then read the postboy's evidence, regarding the offer of £10 to upset the gig, and submitted that Palmer's conduct was caused and justified by the suspicious and irritating conduct of Mr. Stevens. At the time of the coroner's inquest it was not known that Palmer had said anything to the postboy which could be taken as an indication of guilt. Then again it was impossible that a medical man could have hoped to escape detection by the upsetting of a jar. He would now call their attention to the evidence of Newton, who said he had not made known his knowledge of Palmer's purchase of the strychnine till the night before his trial commenced. Newton was at the coroner's inquest, and there all he told them was that he was present when Palmer went into Mr. Hawkins's shop on the Tuesday, and he never said a word of Palmer having obtained strychnine from him, or of the alleged conversation about the quantity of strychnine which would kill a dog. A man who could be guilty of such conduct could not be relied on, and was not to be believed on oath. That Palmer should once in the week purchase strychnine was not to be wondered at, for he might have wanted it to kill vermin, as was often the case; but that Palmer should go twice in a week to purchase strychnine, and that in the shop of a rival tradesman, was to the last degree improbable. Palmer was in London on Monday, and there, without difficulty, being a medical man, could have purchased strychnine. Was it, then, credible that a medical man, who, judging from his note-books, knew well the properties of strychnine, would have gone to such a stupid fellow as Newton appeared to be, and have questioned him on the subject. Another point of great importance, and which ought to decide the case, was the supposition that Palmer kept Cook in a continual state of vomiting, in order to dispatch him more quickly with strychnine. Now, what was Palmer's conduct on the Sunday? Why, he wrote to Mr. Jones to come over to see Cook. This gentleman was a medical man, an intimate friend of Cook, and perfectly acquainted with his winnings at Shrewsbury, and was on those terms of intimacy with him that the deceased would have been disburdened to him his mind of any suspicions, or anything that oppressed him. Was it, then, credible that, if the prisoner intended to poison Cook, he would have sent for Jones, a medical man, to sleep in the room with his victim? Would Palmer have so plotted that this man should have been awakened to witness the mortal agonies of his friend, and of fearful tetanic convulsions which would have awakened his suspicions, and made him a chief witness in bringing Palmer to a murderer's doom? This was incredible. The jury would not believe a man was guilty who acted in this way, and the country would not stand by and see them condemn a man whose conduct had been such as Palmer's had been. The learned Serjeant then read the conversations which took place between Mr. Stevens and Mr. Palmer, in order to show that the conduct of the latter was consistent with innocence, and that Mr. Stevens had acted towards him in an unjustifiable and suspicious manner. With regard to the betting-book, the learned Serjeant argued that it could be of no use to Palmer; and that, as there were many persons in and out of the room, any one of them might have taken it; and it was not fair or right to fix the charge of purloining the book on the prisoner, when it was never seen in his hand, nor had it appeared that any effectual search had been made for it. There was also a story made out against Palmer that he was found searching the pockets of Cook's clothes after his death. Mills had said that she saw him searching under the bolster when she was in the room, perfectly unconcerned. No suspicion of guilt ought, therefore, to attach

to him for that which he was doing so openly. Before he concluded he had to make an observation with reference to the note-book of Palmer which had been brought forward, containing his remarks on strychnine. This book had been Palmer's when a medical student, and in it he (Serjeant Shee) had found something in the prisoner's writing which had great weight with him. He had no doubt that the jury would agree with him in believing that a man who was firmly and fondly attached to a young wife had in that affection the best safeguard and antidote against crime. That William Palmer was such a man seven years ago, faithfully and fondly loving his young wife, was proved by a short note written in this book, which was as follows:—

Dear Anne,—I snatch a few moments from my studies in order to write to your dear, dear, little self. I need scarcely say that my greatest inducement to pursue my studies is, that I may shortly be able to press your dear form to my arms.

Your ever affectionate WILLIAM.

A note in this book had been made use of to show that the prisoner was a savage, heartless desperado, and he (Serjeant Shee) had made use of it to show that he was a man who loved his wife for herself with a pure affection, in which, as he had said, he possessed the best safeguard and antidote against guilt. On the evidence laid before them they could not believe him guilty. They must also not suppose he was deserted by his friends in this hour of dreadful trial; his brother had nobly stood by him, and his aged mother and sister were anxiously awaiting their verdict. He trusted the jury would raise their minds to a capacity to estimate the high duty which they had to perform. If they believed him guilty, they would then have to give a verdict for the Crown; but, they might depend upon it, the time would come when the prisoner's innocence would be proved, and they would then deeply regret not having given due consideration to his case.

The learned Serjeant then resumed his seat, having spoken for seven hours and a half.

The prisoner during the delivery of the address appeared eagerly to watch its effect on the jury, and showed some signs of emotion when allusion was made to his wife.

The court adjourned at ten minutes past six o'clock until next day.

THURSDAY.

Mr. Thomas Nunneley was called and examined by Mr. Grove, Q.C. He said he was a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Professor of Surgery at the Leeds School of Medicine. He had been in practice twenty years, and had a large practice. He had seen cases of tetanus, both idiopathic and traumatic, in the course of his experience. He had heard all the medical evidence given in the case of Cook. Judging from the symptoms as described, he was of opinion that Cook's death was caused by some convulsive disease. Supposing death to have been caused by a dose of strychnine not more than sufficient to cause death, it would have been detected in the system by proper analysis. No amount of putrefaction would destroy strychnine, and to say the substance was indestructible would be within ordinary bounds. Upon an empty stomach the action of strychnine would be quicker than on a full stomach.

[We shall give a full report of the remainder of the trial next week.]

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The road to Rugeley from the railway-station separates the two Churches of Rugeley. The Old one, on the right hand, is a picturesque ruin, adjoining which is the residence of Mrs. Palmer. On the left, and facing the Old Church, stands the New Church; and near the entrance of the churchyard is the Grave of Cook, with nothing to denote it but the mound of earth, shown in the foreground of the Engraving under the shade of the small yew-trees. In the background is the Old Church, in the square tower of which was deposited the body of Cook when it was exhumed for the purpose of further examination. The Grave of the Palmer Family is situated at the back of the Church. It is a plain stone vault, surrounded by iron railings, as shown in the Engraving. It is the grave in which Mrs. Palmer was buried.

Passing the Talbot Arms Inn, in the direction of the Townhall, and taking the first turning to the left, you come to what was the Post-office, kept by Mr. Cheshire, situated in a long street of houses, nearly all of the character of the one shown in the Engraving.

The accompanying Sketch of the town of Rugeley was taken from the railway bank. The hill to the left is called Style-copse, and at the other side of it is Beaudesert, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesey, who is at present lord of the manor of the celebrated Cannock-chase, a wild tract of country about 20 miles in length and from one to seven in breadth; it was formerly a hunting-ground for, and belonging to, the old Bishops of Lichfield; this is to the south-west of Rugeley, and about one mile distant. The Trent winds along at the bottom of the railway. To the north-west is Shugborough, the seat of the Earl of Lichfield; and to the north is the park of Lord Bagot.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

FEMALE SERVANTS' HOME.—The twentieth anniversary of this excellent society was held at Exeter Hall on the 15th inst. The chair, in the absence of the Earl of Eppingham, was taken by the Rev. Joseph Brown. The report, read by the hon. secretary, recommended twenty-one servants for rewards, having continued three years and upwards in the same situation: seventeen, bible and sovereign, for three years and upwards; prayer-book and society's certificated testimonial to two, for six years and upwards; and to two the society's silver medal, for nine years and upwards. The report stated that 410 inmates had been received into the Home during the past year, making a total of 6409; and that 3014 had registered free of expense, making a total of 9423 since the establishment. One hundred and eighty servants attended the annual tea-party.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week ended on Saturday the deaths of 1094 persons, namely, 538 males and 556 females, were registered in London. In the corresponding weeks of ten years, 1846-55, the average number of deaths was 1020; which, if raised by a tenth part for comparison with the deaths of last week, which occurred in an increased population, becomes 1122. It appears that the rate of mortality last week was slightly below the average. Last week the births of 853 boys and 801 girls, in all 1654 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55 the average number was 1497.

THE LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ASYLUM.—The twenty-eighth anniversary festival of this asylum was held at the Highbury Barn Tavern, on Wednesday; John Hingstone, Esq. (of the firm of Messrs. Calvert and Co.), in the chair. The festival was attended by nearly 500 members of the licensed victuallers' trade. From the report it appeared that £2852 5s. 6d. had been, during the past year, contributed towards the funds of the asylum. After discharging the liabilities of the institution there remained a surplus of £800, which had been added to the sum already deposited in the hands of brewers at 5 per cent interest, making the money so invested, up to the present time, amount to £13,900.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF FOREIGNERS IN DISTRESS.—The grand jubilee festival of this most useful, but unpretending, society took place with considerable éclat at the London Tavern, on Wednesday evening. Earl Granville occupied the chair; and near him were seated the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., Right Hon. H. Labouchere, the Chevalier Tottier, the Swedish Consul, the Tuscan Consul, and many other distinguished foreigners and Englishmen. Upwards of £3000 was subscribed in the course of the evening.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.—The governors and friends of this excellent institution assembled in large numbers on Tuesday last to elect six pensioners and six foundation scholars. The event created great interest among the governors from the large number of applicants to fill the vacancies. There being sixteen widows and forty-four orphan children, much regret was generally expressed that the funds of the institution did not admit of a larger number being immediately elected. The chair was occupied by the noble President of the College, Earl Manvers, who has always evinced the utmost anxiety for the prosperity of the institution. On Thursday the prizes were awarded to the pupils who had distinguished themselves by the Lord Bishop of Winchester.

THE PEACE SOCIETY.—On Tuesday evening the anniversary of the Peace Society took place at the Finsbury Chapel. Mr. Hindley, M.P., in the chair. The attendance was very small. The report stated that 150 meetings had been held during the year, and 200,000 publications circulated. The receipts had been £1678, and the expenditure about £1200. The Rev. J. Burnet, Mr. E. J. Collins, Mr. J. Sturge, and the Rev. A. O'Neal addressed the meeting, and a collection having been made, the proceedings terminated.

A PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR PADDINGTON.—A public meeting of the ratepayers of Paddington was held on Monday evening, for the purpose of considering a proposal for the introduction of the Public Libraries Act into the parish. A rate of a halfpenny in the pound for the first year and a farthing in the pound afterwards would be sufficient for the purpose. Colonel Sykes moved that a free public library be established. The Rev. Mr. Boone opposed the proposition as needless and inexpedient. The Rev. Mr. Beresford Hope supported the motion, and after some other speeches and considerable noise and confusion the motion was declared to be lost, as two-thirds of the ratepayers present had not supported it, in accordance with the terms of the Act.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The anniversary meeting will be held on Monday next, the 26th inst., at one o'clock p.m., when the President, Admiral Beechey, will present the founder's gold medal to Mr. Dallas, the American Minister, on behalf of Dr. Kane, of the United States; and the patron's gold medal to Dr. Philip Barth, of Hamburg. The President will then deliver the annual address on the "Progress of Geographical Science and Discovery." The anniversary dinner will take place in the evening, at seven o'clock precisely, at the Freemasons' Tavern.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THERE is a picture bill before Parliament (introduced on Monday night) which if carried will, in its working, prove injurious to the Gallery it is designed to assist. It is called "A Bill to Extend the Powers of the Trustees and Directors of the National Gallery, and to authorise the Sale of Works of Art belonging to the Public." By this bill Sir Charles Eastlake and the trustees may at once transfer to Christie and Manson's rooms, for sale by hammer, any picture or pictures given to the nation by Sir George Beaumont, or any picture or pictures given to the nation by Mr. Vernon. As soon as the bill has passed they may, in their infinite wisdom, sell the very three pictures bequeathed to the nation by the poet Rogers. Now, what will be the effect of this? People will not make requests that may be sold to-morrow. Those making their last wills will be shy of leaving pictures to the caprice of half a dozen trustees and one director, and that director all-powerful. A director only loving Dutch art would sell the Italian school to get money to buy more Dutch pictures. King George IV., Lord Farnborough, and Sir Robert Peel, who only cared for Dutch and Flemish pictures, would have sent Titians and Tintorettoes to the nearest auction mart. Mr. Ford and Mr. Sterling would (perhaps) overload us with Velasquez and Murillo. Mr. Ruskin would overwhelm us with the Venetian school. Mrs. Jameson would give us ten thousand virgins, all anterior to Raphael. Mr. Coningham and Mr. Morris Moore would quarrel about what should be, and what should not be, sold. Lord Stanhope would be inclined to overstock us with portraits of British worthies. Poor Sir Charles Eastlake! As if he has not enough already to irritate him in connection with his office in the National Gallery! Here, however, is a new subject of annoyance. More Morris Moores (if this bill is passed) lie in wait for you, Sir Charles!

The bill, it is said (for it is much canvassed), might have a good effect if it was strictly limited to the sale of pictures acquired by purchase, together with the right of transfer of gifts and bequests to Government galleries in Edinburgh, Dublin, Manchester, Liverpool, &c. It is desirable, certainly, to sell the so-called Holbein. It is perhaps desirable to get rid of the new Paul Veronese. But we confess we should be sorry to see any one picture presented to the nation by Sir George Beaumont or Mr. Vernon exposed for sale to the highest bidder.

Less than fifty years ago and the majority of the members of the Royal Academy have voted that Hogarth was not a painter, and that the "Marriage à la Mode" (that wonderfully painted story) was unsuited for a National Collection. Fuseli called Wilkie a pot-and-pan painter. Sir Martin Archer Shee, as President of the Royal Academy, recommended Lord Grey not to purchase the Lawrence collection of drawings; and thus that storehouse of the first thoughts of the greatest painter was lost to the nation. Fifty years ago and the Trustees of the British Museum had the power of selling duplicate books. Now they have not the power—and why? It was found that they had sold very rare books, in matchless condition—part of the old Royal library of the Kings of England—of which they had no duplicate, and of which in some instances they have even now no copy at all. We repeat that we only utter a very general opinion when we express a hope that this bill will not in its present shape be allowed to become the law of the land. Rumour speaks of more than one well-known collector who has sent for his solicitor to amend his will, and what was meant for the nation will now be given—like Douce's library—to Oxford, and not to the British Museum; or, like the Stanish collection, cross the Channel and adorn Imperial Paris.

Sir Joshua Reynolds' famous picture of "Puck," which the nation shamefully let slip, was bought by the sole survivor of the many sitters to Sir Joshua. Appropriately enough, the noble purchaser, and the last of the sitters to our noble painter, was in the room when the picture was knocked down to him. Lord Fitzwilliam remembers standing to Sir Joshua, and whoever has been at Wentworth House will never forget the exquisite portrait of the graceful boy no more than they will forget those noble twin-portraits on one canvas of Stafford and his secretary. "Puck," neglected by the trustees of the National Gallery, is now one of the many glories of the mansion of an English nobleman.

There is a little (unnecessary) envy expressed about a recent purchase of classic ground—ground made classic (outside of Eton and Harrow) by no less a person than William Shakespeare. On what was once the high-road and direct line from Dover to London, may be seen a very sensibly-built, cozy, unpretending red-brick house (of the Queen Anne period), with lawn in front—a hah—a—some cedars (that Evelyn would have loved), and a little timber, barely enough to find wood for an outtrigger on the Thames above Putney. Shakespeare is said to have given to the ground on which this unpretending brick-built dwelling stands an interest beyond what Matthew Marshall or Baron Rothschild could in dreams realise for its supposed worth. Delightful, most delightful, indeed, is it to look at. This house has a pleasant aspect, with an air smacking of the Thames and the Medway. The rising ground on which this modest mansion lifts its head is called Gadshill. Classic ground, indeed. Men from Moscow and Pekin visit Gadshill for the sake of Shakespeare and Sir John Falstaff. It was once, in auction-mart phraseology, a most desirable property. Your purse-proud cit might have found a good investment for his money in such a house. But now the high-road for man from Paris and Pekin is not by Rochester and Gravesend. The only high-road is by the rail; and Gadshill—

Poetic fields encompass me around—

became (most fortunately for what we have to tell) a little depreciated in the market. Merchants and Stock-Exchange men have (we are happy to think) taken a different line of country; and that red-brick, cozy, well-built, comfortable house on the sheltered summit of everybody's Gadshill, has been bought by no less a person than Charles Dickens. It is said, and in print, that our distinguished novelist was born in the immediate neighbourhood of this classic ground. He was born, we are told, at Rochester—a city dear to architects and authors. But this is a mistake. Mr. Dickens was born at Portsmouth. He was educated at Rochester; and from a boy it has been a dream, now happily fulfilled, that "some day" a certain Queen Anne brick-built house in Kent would be his. Mr. Dickens has bought this house, and the red-brick building on Gadshill will not be replaced (this the talkers tell us) by a stuccoed mansion in the doubtful taste of the Batty Langleys of the present day.

Mr. Ruskin has just put forth a very mild but clever pamphlet on the pictures in the present Royal Academy Exhibition, and the Exhibition at the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours. This year he is without vinegar. He is in love with Holman Hunt and Don Lewis. He has made up his unnecessary quarrel with Mr. Roberts, and sees a thousand beauties (and not unsensibly so) in pictures by known and by unknown men. If we are at times inclined to quarrel with him for a false opinion (always expressed in excellent English) we are as apt—yes, apter—to admit the good sense of what he says about modest pictures that deserve more attention than critics are inclined to give them. With one paragraph in his pamphlet we are a little offended, and this for his own sake. The reference to the *Quarterly Review* and his own private affairs have given unnecessary occasion to a few stupid jokes.

The new reading-room in that true National Gallery of the United Kingdom, the British Museum, is—thanks to Mr. Sydney Smirke, Mr. Panizzi, and Mr. Winter Jones—very nearly ready. Government has given a further sum of £5000 for gliding the ceiling, not the backs of books. It will be a noble and, better still, a most useful edifice. Look at Mr. Sydney Smirke's two elevations of it in the present Royal Academy Exhibition. There will be table-room for 302 readers—each reader having elbow-room of four feet three inches by two feet three inches, with an immediate access (oh delightful thought!) to three circular galleries containing (think of this, Mr. Toovey!) one hundred thousand volumes. We ought, with such opportunities, to have more great works in literature. We shall now get rid of the Museum flea and the Museum headache.

Mr. Thackeray is once more in London, having changed his Yankee dollars into Piastres and Wyon sovereigns. He looks well, is full of his old drollery, and has caught a little Yankee accent, which, like the lisp of the Black Douglas and Sir Walter Scott, "becomes him wonder well."

NEWSVENDERS' BENEVOLENT AND PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

The annual meeting and supper of this institution were held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday evening; Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., in the chair. At the meeting the report of the committee was read, in which they expressed their gratitude for the support of the press, and took the opportunity of acknowledging donations from the proprietors of several daily and weekly papers, including one of £20 from Mr. E. T. Smith, proprietor of the *Sunday Times*; and also £50 from the same gentleman as lessee of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, in the form of theatrical tickets. The report was adopted, and the usual votes of thanks were given to the several officers. The latter were re-elected, with the exception of the secretary, Mr. Cole, who retired, in consequence of other occupation; and the appointment of Mr. Saul, jun., in his place by the committee was unanimously confirmed. The appointment of Miss Hawkins as a pensioner was proposed by Mr. Garratt, who stated that he had known her for twenty-five years, and Mr. Spilling, who had known her for forty years. Both gentlemen spoke of Miss Hawkins in terms of the highest eulogy. She was elected unanimously.

The company then adjourned to the supper-room. Among the gentlemen near the Chairman was Mr. P. Murrough, M.P., Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Peter Cunningham, Mr. W. Dawson, Mr. T. B. Crompton, Mr. John Timbs, Mr. E. Evans, Mr. John Hutton, Mr. L. Wild, and Mr. P. Terry.

After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the Chairman proposed the toast of the evening, "Success and Prosperity to the News-venders' Benevolent and Provident Institution;" and he was glad to see that it was provided as well as benevolent, for he was quite sure that if it did not provide against the reverses of life it could not long be benevolent (Great applause). There was a necessity that it should be provident in order that it might be lasting (Hear, hear). He considered that the news-venders, as a body, were, without exception, the most industrious body of men in London; and, as they were liable to the same misfortunes as the rest of the community, there was the same necessity that they should have a provident and benevolent institution as for any other trade or body; and he was, therefore, pleased to see that the society prospered as it did. The fact that the news-venders were so industrious a body was really a matter worth a few remarks. Half the men in London would rather go without their breakfast than without their newspaper (Laughter, and "Hear, hear"); and the news-venders had to make up for the deficiency of the newspaper proprietors, who sometimes did not get out their paper in time (A laugh); so that the news-vender had to run about all over the town for hours from the necessity of making up for the shortcoming of the proprietors (Laughter). The way in which the *Times* was distributed was marvellous. How the news-venders contrived that everybody should see it before ten o'clock he did not know, but everybody knew that the thing was done. It was astonishing what efforts were made by the news-venders to get the papers distributed when the publication was late. This extra trouble the proprietors gave them, and he, as one of the proprietors, felt bound to acknowledge it, and thank them for their exertion (Hear). He knew very well what hard work a news-vender had in carrying on his business at all hours and in all sorts of weather. He had been a news-vender himself, and he believed that when he was at Nottingham there was not in the whole kingdom a more industrious news-vender than he was (Laughter, and great applause). As one instance, he might mention that there was among his customers a gentleman who wanted his paper very early, and he (Mr. Ingram) was so anxious that this gentleman should not be disappointed that he walked five miles (and of course had to walk five miles back in addition) to deliver a single paper (Renewed applause and laughter). Why, on one occasion he got up at two in the morning to travel to London to get some copies of a paper, because there was no post to bring them, and he was determined that his customers should have the paper (Hear, hear, and "Bravo, Ingram!"). And his industry had its reward, for he sold over 1000 of that paper in Nottingham alone (Applause). But that was not the only reward of his exertions. It was from the experience he had as a news-vender, and in the sale of those very papers, that he thought of the paper with which he was now connected (Applause). These matters were personal, but, as they had a certain relevance to the question in hand, he thought it not improbable that they might be interesting to the meeting in connection with the interests of the trade to which they related (Applause, and "Go on"). He used to notice that even a very bad woodcut in an odd number of a paper would make it sell more than usual (A laugh), and it occurred to him that if they had a number of good engravings, and put them in every number, a paper conducted on such a principle must succeed (Great applause). That was the origin of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, and, whatever was his present position, it was simply owing to his connection with the news trade (Applause). The very title was suggested by the fact that many of his customers, especially the more illiterate, would come and ask for the London news. They did not care whether he gave them the *Dispatch* or *Bell's Life*, or anything else (Laughter) so long as it contained the London news. So he thought if that name suited the common people it would suit all classes, and he called his paper "the Illustrated News," putting "Illustrated" before it on account of the pictures (Much laughter and applause). After some humorous remarks on the energetic character of the news-venders of London, Mr. Ingram concluded amidst continued cheering, and the toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Mr. Terry, treasurer, in replying for the society, took occasion to mention, as an example of the fitness of the application of the funds to the original purpose, that on the death of a vice-president, and one of the founders of the institution, his wife was thrown into a position of some difficulty, and twice received £10 from the funds of the institution. Much as it was to be regretted that she should stand in need of such aid, it was gratifying to know that when needed it was supplied by the very institution which that philanthropic gentleman had aided to establish (Great applause). Mr. Terry, in a highly eulogistic speech, proposed "The health of the Chairman, Herbert Ingram, Esq., M.P."

In seconding this motion, Mr. L. Wild took occasion to remark in strong terms of commendation on the service done by Mr. Ingram to the trade. He was not like one who stepped into another man's trade, and got on by working that other out. Mr. Ingram had opened a new field for himself (Hear, hear), and by doing so had added a new branch to the trade. They must all own that the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS had added greatly to their business (Great applause). It formed one-half the trade of most of the news-venders (Tremendous cheers), and he contended that the whole trade were under great obligations to Mr. Herbert Ingram for the service he had done them by means of his paper.

The toast was drunk with the usual honours, and with much enthusiasm. The list of subscribers was then read, headed by Mr. Ingram with a contribution of twenty-five guineas (Much applause).

Mr. Mark Lemon rose amidst great applause. He said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, the duty assigned to me is so easy and so pleasurable that it will require no lengthened speech to persuade you, in your turn, to take your proper share of it. It is something, gentlemen, to have made a name wherever the English language is spoken or read—a name that will endure so long as the English language continues to be spoken and read to be a "household word" in every English home (Applause). But it is something more to remember those who, less successful in the "battle of life," may chance to be on the lists of the severely wounded (Much sensation). This has been done by your President, Mr. Charles Dickens (Immense and prolonged applause). I am sure, gentlemen, that I should idly intrude on your time if I did more than propose his health as that of a trustee and the president of the institution.

The toast was drunk amidst loud and prolonged applause.

Mr. Peter Cunningham, in an amusing speech, proposed "The House of Commons, coupled with the name of Mr. P. Murrough;" who responded in appropriate terms.

It was announced by the secretary that upwards of £100 had been collected at this meeting; and, after some further toasts had been well received and aptly acknowledged, the meeting separated at a moderately early hour.

THE NEW NAVAL UNIFORMS.

In the large illustration upon the next page we have engraved the New Uniforms which, according to Circular No. 246, dated Admiralty, 11th April, 1856, "in pursuance of Her Majesty's pleasure, are in future to be worn by officers of the Royal Navy."

First is the Dress Uniform of the Admiral, which, and the appointments, are the same as those of the Admiral of the Fleet, except that there are to be three rows only of distinction lace on the sleeves; and the epaulets have lace straps with three stars, within the crescent, above them crossed sword and bâton, surmounted by a crown. The coat is of blue cloth with white collar; the trousers are of blue cloth, with 1½ inch gold lace down the outside seam; the embroidery of the epaulets and the sword-knot and belt is very handsome, especially the gold oak-leaves and acorns, and the clasp, with crown, anchor, and laurel. The sword, with solid hilt, half basket guard, crown and anchor badge, and lion-head back-piece, is superb. The long slings to the sword-belt are new.

The Captain's and Lieutenant's are dress uniforms. In that of the Midshipman, as well as the Cadet, the dirk is restored, and no swords are worn; the dirk to be according to pattern. The uniform cap only is worn. In the sleeve embroidery it should be stated that the curve above the cuff is new and striking.

For the information on these points afforded to our Artist we have to thank Messrs. G. and W. H. Gillott and Hasell, tailors, 36, West Strand.



THE NEW NAVAL UNIFORMS



"SECRET."

AMAZON.

"THOUGHT."

"EXTRAVAGANZA."

THE ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB MATCH.—THE YACHTS PASSING GRAYS.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB MATCH.

THIS, the first match of the season of this distinguished club, took place, as we noticed last week, on Wednesday, the 14th instant, and afforded one of the best yachting contests that has ever been witnessed on the Thames. The first prize, value £100, was a tall silver cup and cover; and the second, value, £70, a large centre épergne for the table, made by the Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket.

Though the morning was most threatening, there was a good muster of yachtsmen on board the *Prince of Wales* and *Oread*, the two steam-vessels which accompanied the match. The wind was all that could be desired for the sports, a fine wholesome breeze blowing from the S.W. by W. The course of the vessels was from Erith, round the Nore Light, and back to Erith. On the arrival of the party at the starting-place, the following vessels were found at their starting-buoys:—

FIRST CLASS, exceeding 35 tons.					
Amazon	46	London ..	Alfred J. Young, Esq.		
Extravaganza ..	49	Pool ..	Sir P. F. Shelley, Bart.		
SECOND CLASS, exceeding 20 tons, and not exceeding 35.					
Thought	29	London ..	George Cooke, Esq.		
Secret	33	Plymouth ..	Henry J. Waring, Esq.		
Half-minute time per ton for difference of tonnage in each class.					

Two others had been entered for the match—the *Cyclone*, a new and untried vessel, and the celebrated *Phantom*; but the *Cyclone* had split her mainsail in a gale of wind, off the Lizard, a day or two previously, and the *Phantom* had been taken on shore to clean her bottom at Gravesend that morning, when it was found that the pintle of her rudder had given way.

Of the vessels which were to start, the *Amazon* was preferred to the *Extravaganza*, and the *Thought* to the *Secret*. The duties of commodore devolved upon Mr R. Green, the vice owing to the absence of Lord Alfred Paget, who was detained in London.

The yachts were moored in one line—the *Thought* first to windward then the *Secret*, *Amazon*, and *Extravaganza*. At 11h. 41m. the start took place.

The *Secret* was off first, then the *Amazon*, and next the *Extravaganza*. The *Thought* was very slow in getting away, and her antagonist was nearly at the point before she had well got away from the starting-buoy.

The first three vessels soon hoisted jib-headed topsails, but the *Thought* kept her topmast hauled, and all went away at a great pace with the wind on the starboard quarter; after passing Purfleet the *Thought* began to improve her position with the *Extravaganza*. The *Secret*, beautifully handled, continued to lead till she arrived off Grays, where she was passed to leeward by the *Amazon*; at East Tilbury the *Extravaganza* obtained the second place; and thence to the Nore Light the *Thought* showed her great running powers by rapidly decreasing the distance between herself and the leading boats.



SUNDAY-SCHOOL JUBILEE COMMEMORATION IN THE PIECE HALL, HALIFAX.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY HAIGH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The time at the Nore Light was thus:—

	H. M. S.	Secret	H. M. S.
Amazon	2 4 0	Secret	2 7 15
Extravaganza ..	2 6 0	Thought	2 7 39

Soon after rounding, the *Extravaganza* carried away her jib-balyard block, which considerably stopped her way. The *Secret* weathered and fore-reached her, and again increased the distance between herself and the *Thought* (which had come up with the *Extravaganza*) by half a mile.

The *Amazon* fetched in above Mucking Flat Lighthouse, where she was obliged to go about, being then at least a mile ahead. In the Lower Hope the *Thought* passed the *Extravaganza* to windward, and in Gravesend Reach came up to the *Secret*. The latter made a short tack to windward, when the *Thought* gradually overreached her, and left her, and in this order they finished a very quick race at Erith:—

	H. M. S.	Secret	H. M. S.
Amazon	5 44 50	Secret	5 53 0
Thought	5 48 30	Extravaganza ..	5 54 45

The first prize was presented to the owner of the *Amazon* by the Vice-Commodore, with a well-merited eulogium upon the skill displayed in the navigation of the *Amazon*. She was sailed and piloted by her own captain, Timothy Walker. The second prize was handed over to Mr. Pitcock, the captain of the *Thought*, her owner not being present, with many compliments for his excellent sailing of that vessel. The owner of the *Amazon* returned thanks, and proposed "The Ladies," and the company returned to town highly gratified with the day's sport. There was an excellent collation on board, and the band of the Royal Horse Guards Blue, under Mr. Tutton.

THE HALIFAX SUNDAY-SCHOOL JUBILEE.

THE fifth commemoration of the Sunday-school Jubilee in Halifax took place on Whit-Tuesday, in the Halifax Piece Hall, built for a trade which has now wholly changed its character, but never fully used except on these commemorations. Upon this occasion the additional accommodation for spectators was on a gigantic scale. The galleries of the hall are capable of holding something over five thousand people, but standing room was found for three thousand more, by the erection of temporary wooden platforms, ranging almost entirely round the building. The orchestra for the musicians, put up on the east side of the hall, reached from the basement story to the floor of the topmost gallery.

The procession of the several schools to the hall was an imposing scene. The gates of the hall were opened for spectators at ten o'clock, and in an hour the whole of the galleries, from east to west, from north to south, were lined with occupants. By eleven o'clock every street leading to the south and west gates was packed with scholars and two impenetrable lines of lookers-on. They came, four abreast, in every direction, headed by bands in every costume, and playing various tunes, and with banners in every variety, size, and colour. For an hour and a half, without interruption or delay, two living streams continued to pour in, and flood the area of the hall. Twelve o'clock came; you glanced through the archway of the west gates, and there was the same crowd besetting the doors, there was the same hurrying of feet, and apparently the same line of scholars fitted between you and the light. You looked on that open archway, on that eager crowd, and on an endless train of children. A length all were in; the last school had been edged into its place; the last straggling band had seated itself upon the orchestra; and everything was ready for Mr. Dean, the conductor.

The interior of the hall at this point of the proceedings was strikingly grand. It was utterly impossible to rest the eye upon a foot of vacant ground, or to discover the least break in the lines of spectators filling the galleries. The vast area, thick with scholars, resembled an immense flower-bed: the showy bonnets, capes, and dresses of the girls contrasting admirably with the dark hats, caps, and coats of the boys. Standing above the orchestra, looking below, in front, to the right and to the left, the eye took in at one sweep a sea of up-turned faces, a multitude of swinging banners, a distracting flutter of silks, satins, and ribbons, and a ceaseless motion of parasols. It was a scene to be remembered. The company in the reserved seats included members from the principal families in the town and district.

The Independent denominations (says the *Halifax Courier*) were represented by 22 schools, numbering 981 teachers and 7054 scholars; the Wesleyans sent 17 schools, comprising 697 teachers and 2898 scholars; the Methodist New Connection had 11 schools present, embracing 609 teachers and 2586 scholars; the Methodists: Free Church and Wesleyan Reformers assembled to the number of 10 schools, comprising 683 teachers and 2341 scholars; the Baptists sent seven schools, including 417 teachers and 2133 scholars; the Primitive Methodists had present eight schools, numbering 400 teachers and 1431 scholars; the Wesleyan Association had three schools, in which were 182 teachers and 570 scholars; and under the head "various" there were six schools, with 142 teachers and 418 scholars; making a total of 24,737 teachers and scholars. Besides these there were 500 instrumental and 336 vocal performers; making a total again of 25,623 for the area of the hall. It is to this number we add the 8000 spectators accommodated in the galleries, we shall have a grand total of 33,623 persons congregated within the walls of one building.

At about a quarter to one o'clock the conductor entered his box, amidst a deafening cheer, the drums also rolling their note of welcome. In a moment or two Mr. Dean turned towards the orchestra, when the monster brass band at once amplified their bright and shining instruments; one wave of the baton evoked a preliminary roll of the drums to mark the time, four bars of an introductory movement by the cornets succeeded, and then came a majestic crash of instruments, such as had never been heard in Halifax before, to the tune "Braganza," to which the first hymn was adapted.

A placard was then raised bearing the words "All Sing"—the conductor turned round, and so faced the vast sea of up-turned faces; and then forth rolled the volume of sound in the full chorus, added to the blast from the band.

We have not space for the details of the performance of the three hymns. At the close of the first part the children, accompanied by the full band, sang, with grand effect, the grace before meat, "Be present at our table, Lord," to the tune of the 100th Psalm. Refreshments were handed to the children, and the instrumentalists proceeded in a body to the Old Fellows' Hall, where an excellent lunch was provided of 190 lb. of beef, 1 cwt. of cheese, 650 large currant buns, 120 loaves 2 lb. each, 95 gallons of ale, and 20 gallons of coffee. Meanwhile 24,000 currant cakes were distributed to the children. The beverage supplied was pure water, which was conveyed into the hall by pipes, and ten taps were placed in various parts of the hall, and drawn into 5000 pint-pots.

The first wave of the baton before commencing the National Anthem was a signal for the removal of hats and caps, the multitudinous effect of which was very significant of a mass of loyal teachers and children. The noble hymn was sung with heart and soul, nearly the entire audience joining in the chorus. At its conclusion cheers loud and long burst forth from every part of the hall, which were renewed when a large placard was exhibited on the orchestra with "Mr. Dean" printed upon it. That gentleman bowed his acknowledgments.

At the termination of the National Anthem the scholars began to file off to their respective schools, and the audience slowly dispersed.

STOPPAGE OF THE BANDS IN THE PARKS.

Notwithstanding the rain—which with very short intervals descended in torrents during nearly the whole day—the various parks in the metropolis were attended by great numbers of people on Sunday last. As it was anticipated that some of the violence of last summer might be repeated, it was decided by the Commissioners that large numbers of police should be sent into the neighbourhood of the various parks, but that they should not be called out unless their services were required, so that any unpleasant collisions might be avoided. The consequence of this was that very few constables were seen in any of the parks. In Kensington-gardens, where by far the greatest number of people assembled, a large number of "roughs" banded themselves together, rushing against every respectably-dressed person they met, at the same time whistling, hooting, and shrieking, for the purpose of creating confusion and committing robberies. Several of the trees were injured, in consequence of the branches being pulled off, to be used as sticks by the disorderly. The scene was at its height a little after four o'clock, when down came the heaviest shower of the day, which had the effect of nearly clearing the park.

On Monday night a crowded meeting of the inhabitants of St. Pancras was held for the purpose of eliciting an opinion as to the recent stoppage of the playing of the bands on Sunday. Mr. W. D. Cooper presided. Mr. Tapping, barrister, moved a resolution expressive of regret and indignation that the bands had been withdrawn. Only about a dozen hands were held up against the resolution, which was carried by an overwhelming majority. Sir Benjamin Hall, who was present, addressed the meeting amidst tremendous cheering. He stated his readiness to meet his opponents on this question, and by far and open argument to justify what he had done. The Sunday bands had been prohibited out of deference to the petitions presented against Sunday desecration. He did not think it worth while to find fault with the way in which some of those petitions had been got up, but he felt he had the right to call attention to the prayers of some of them. One was that steam-boats should be put down on a Sunday (Laughter and "Shame!"); another, that railway trains should cease to run (Renewed laughter). What was more absurd was, that the gates of all the parks should be closed, and even the Post-office should be again closed on Sundays throughout the kingdom. (Loud cries of "Shame, shame!") He had had recently a deputation to wait upon him on this subject, and they not only wished the park gates to be closed against carriages on Sundays, but they said skating in the parks was a great sin. He (Sir B. Hall) said if that were so, why did they not ask to put skating down? (Hear, hear.) That was to use rather a vulgar phrase, "a choker." (Laughter, and cries of "A white choker!") He had been told, in the lobby of the House of Commons, that if he had confined the band to Kensington he would not have been interfered with. It was his aggressive policy which was objected to. But if the band was good for one place why not for another? If good for the West-end, why not for the East also? He urged the people to decent and orderly conduct as the surest way to defeat their opponents. A deputation was appointed to wait on Lord Palmerston, and to arrange for an open-air demonstration. A

resolution in favour of a Saturday half-holiday was negatived; and, after votes of thanks to Sir B. Hall and the chairman, the meeting separated.

On Monday night a public meeting of the inhabitants of Westminster was held in the Great Hall, Broadway, for the purpose of taking into consideration the discontinuance of the music in the parks on Sundays. Sir John V. Shelley, M.P., presided. The large hall was crowded. A resolution expressing the regret and indignation of the meeting at the withdrawal of the bands was almost unanimously adopted; as was a resolution in favour of a proper organisation to carry the wishes of the meeting into effect.

On Wednesday evening, pursuant to a requisition received by Sir James John Hamilton, Bart., and Mr. J. A. Nicholas, churchwardens of Marylebone, bearing the signatures of 800 ratepayers, a public meeting of the inhabitants was held in Hall's Riding-school, for the purpose of eliciting their opinions as to the recent stoppage of Sunday music in the parks and Kensington-gardens. Mr. Churchwarden Nicholas was called to the chair, and about 3000 persons were assembled.

Sir Benjamin Hall was present, and his appearance on the hustings was the signal for great enthusiasm. Among the persons present were Lord Raynham, Messrs. P. Graham, D'Almeida, Soden, Whitmore, Stewart, Potter, Cobham, Hodges, and other members of the vestry and ratepayers well known to the district. Resolutions were passed expressing regret that the Prime Minister had, by yielding to the solicitations of a party, and in opposition to his own personal convictions, deprived the working classes of this metropolis of a means of innocent enjoyment and healthful recreation. It was also resolved that a deputation should be appointed to wait upon Lord Palmerston to urge upon his Lordship the propriety of revoking the order for the discontinuance of the bands, and that a memorial should be presented to the Queen praying that she will be graciously pleased to direct that the music in the parks on Sunday shall be resumed.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.—Sir Henry Barkly is to be the new Governor of Victoria. After having passed seven years in the West Indies, and conducted the government of two important colonies with eminent success at a critical period, he will almost immediately return to England and receive his appointment to the charge of the new and wealthy society which has lately sprung into existence on the shores of Australia.

MANCHESTER ART EXHIBITION, 1857.—On Tuesday afternoon a meeting of gentlemen whose names appear in a list of subscribers to a guarantee fund for an Exhibition of the Art Treasures of the United Kingdom, proposed to be held in Manchester in 1857, took place in the Mayor's parlour at the Manchester Townhall. A report of the steps taken since the preliminary meeting was read, from which it appears that the list of subscribers to the guarantee fund contains the names of thirty-two gentlemen for £1000 each, and sixty gentlemen for £500 each, making the total sum guaranteed £62,000. The report having been read, it was unanimously resolved that an exhibition, to be entitled an Exhibition of the Art Treasures of the United Kingdom, shall be held in Manchester in 1857. Resolutions were afterwards agreed to constituting the subscribers to the guarantee fund a general council, with the Earl of Ellesmere as president, and requesting the following noblemen to give their patronage:—The Earls of Derby, Stamford, Sefton, Ellesmere, Wilton, Ducie, Burlington, Balcarres, and the Bishop of Manchester.

ROYAL PANOPTICON.—The indefatigable directors of this institution have added to its attractions the recently-arrived Walpole Islanders—consisting of a party of six men, four squaws, and an interesting child three months old. The evening's entertainment is diversified by a concert by the Spanish minstrels, some solo performances on the flute and piano, and a diorama view of Central America; the whole concluded by the display of the luminous fountain. During the lecture delivered on Tuesday, while Mr. Partington was illustrating the nature of thunder and lightning by the aid of the gigantic electrical machine, the Canadian Indians, who were present, stated their views of the marvels that presented themselves. The streams of electrical fire that passed over the surface of the glass plate they ascribed to the direct manifestation of the Great Spirit, whose power, they added, was not confined to their own "happy hunting-grounds;" and, like the Mexican Indians, when they first heard the reverberations of the Spanish firearms, they thought that the lecturer had the power of controlling the elements.

GRAND SCULLERS' MATCH.—The match for £100 aside, between Kelly, of Fulham, and Mackinney, of Richmond, was rowed on Thursday. Kelly, who took the lead at starting, won easily by a considerable distance.

SEBASTOPOL HARBOUR.—The latest letters from the Crimea state that means had been found to enter the harbour of Sebastopol, after a canal had been opened across the three lines of sunken Russian vessels. The transports of the Allied squadrons have already begun to ship the artillery. The points chosen for the embarkation are—for the English the Admiralty, and for the French the Quay Nicholas, situated at the extremity of the Rue St. Catherine.

It is supposed by the Paris journals that by the 1st of August there will not remain a foreign soldier on the Russian territory.

The *New York Herald* announces the death of Bochs, the celebrated harpist, in Australia, on the 1st of January last.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

THE leading feature in the Money Market this week has been the taking the new loan of £5,000,000. The price paid by the contractors, Messrs. Rothschild, was 98, or a fraction over the amount referred to in our letter last week. It may be remarked, however, that our price was within 1s. 9d. of that first offered by the contractors, who were, no doubt, induced to give a higher figure owing to the steady improvement in Consols. It is stated that the subscription-lists showed an amount equal to £40,000,000; consequently, the deposit of ten per cent on the previous Friday was £3,700,000, a large portion of which has been repaid to the subscribers. There has been a firm business done in the Scrip, at from 1½ up to 1¾ and 2½ premium.

The candid statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer respecting the probable future drain upon the Money Market has given some confidence to the leading jobbers. They have, consequently, operated largely, and the quotations generally have improved. The comparative scarcity of money, however, has had considerable influence upon the Unfunded Debt, and prices have again given way, though they slightly improved on Thursday. It is a pretty general impression in the City—that bankers are still giving 5 per cent for money on "call"—that the Chancellor will be compelled to raise the rate of interest upon it to 3d. per diem.

The imports of bullion have been £180,000 from the West Indies, £290,000 from Australia, and £70,000 from America. Amongst the shipments are over £540,000 to India, China, and Egypt. This continuous drain upon our resources is likely to keep money dear in this country, because we are deprived of the means of keeping the Continental exchanges in check by an export of silver. Gold is still arriving from the Continent, as well as from Turkey, in small quantities.

The Consol Market on Monday was tolerably active. The Reduced Three per Cents realised 92½ up to 93½; Consols, for Money, 93½ to 94½; Ditto, for the Account, 93½ to 94½; New Three per Cents, 92½ to 93½; Bank Stock was 214½ to 215; Long Annuities, 1855, marked 171-1½; India Bonds, 4s. dis.; Consols Scrip, 1½ to 1½ premium; Exchequer Bills (March), par; Ditto (June), 9s. 4d. discount. The annexed prices were realised on the following day, with a very firm market:—Bank Stock, 215½ to 216½; Three per Cents Reduced, 93½ to 94½; Three per Cent Consols, for Transfer, 94½ to 95½; Ditto, for Account, 94½ up to 95½; New Three per Cents, 93½ to 94½; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 78; India Stock, 231 to 230; Long Annuities, 1855, 171½; Consols Scrip, 1½ to 2½ prem.; Exchequer Bills, March, par; June, 6s. 2s. 6s. prem. The dealings on Wednesday were tolerably numerous:—Bank Stock was 215 to 214; Three per Cents Reduced, 92½ to 93½; Consols, 94½ to 95½; Ditto, for Account, 94½ to 95½; Consols Scrip, 1½ to 1½ prem.; Long Annuities, 1855, 171½ to 172½; India Stock, 230 to 229; India Bonds, 3s. dis.; Exchequer Bills, par to 5s. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, 93½ to 94½. On Thursday the Directors of the Bank of England removed the additional 1 per cent imposed in October last on the negotiation of paper having more than sixty days to run. The minimum charge is now, therefore, 6 per cent for all classes of bills. The large amounts of gold taken into the Bank this week—over £400,000—have, no doubt, induced the Directors to make this important change, which must prove a great relief to the mercantile classes. The Consol Market was steady, yet prices fluctuated:—The Three per Cents opened at 94½ to 95½, and closed at 94½ to 95½; for the Account the quotations were 94½ to 95½. The new Scrip was 1½ to 2½ prem. The New Three per Cents realised 93½ to 94½; and the Reduced, 93 to 93½. Bank Stock advanced to 216½; Exchequer Bills, 1s. prem. to 2s. dis.; Ditto Bonds, 93½.

Intelligence having been received that the Government of Buenos Ayres has made satisfactory proposals for the settlement of the foreign debt—it being proposed to send £24,000 this year, £36,000 in 1857, £48,000 in 1858, and £60,000 in 1859, besides issuing bonds for the arrears of dividends—there has been much excitement in the market for those securities, and a considerable advance has taken place in the quotations. In other Foreign Bonds a full average business has been transacted, and prices have steadily advanced. We have had dealings in Brazilian Five per Cents, Small, at 90; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95; B-Argan Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95½; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 75 to 79; Egyptian Bonds, 5½; Granada Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 74; Mexican Three per Cents, 23½; Portuguese Four per Cents, 48; Russian Five per Cents, 105½; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 94½ to 95; Spanish Three per Cents, 45½ to 46½; Ditto, New Deferred, 25½; Ditto, Coupon, 5½ per cent; Turkish Six per Cents, 92½; Ditto, Four per Cents, Guaranteed, 103; Venezuelan Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 39; Austrian Five per Cents, 53; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 61½; Dutch Four per Cents, 91½; Peruvian, 75; Danish Three per Cents, 83½.

Most Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been in good request, as follows:—Bank of Egypt, 5½; British North American, 6½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 18½; London Chartered of Australia, 19; Ditto, New, 84; London and County, 32½; London Joint-Stock, 32; London and Westminster, 42½; New South Wales, 42½; Ottoman Bank, 11½.

Miscellaneous Securities have continued firm in price, but the transactions in

them have been very moderate. Canada Company's Bonds have marked 138½; Ditto, Government Six per Cents, 111½; Crystal Palace, 2½; Ditto, Preference, 5½; East and West India Docks, 123; London General Omnibus, 3½; National Discount Company, 4½; New South Wales Government Debentures, 97; North of Europe Steam, 13½; Oriental Gas, 1½; Ditto, New Shares, 4½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 67; Royal Mail Steam, 73½; Victoria Dock, 4½.

There has been an improving market for all Railway Shares, and prices generally have advanced. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 4½; Bristol and Exeter, 88; Chester and Holyhead, 16; East Counties, 10½; East Lancashire, 78½; Great Northern, 18 Stock, 127; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 105; Great Western, 60½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 91; London and Brighton, 102½; London and North-Western, 102; Ditto, Eighties, 1½; London and South-Western, 90; Midland, 77½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 47½; Norfolk, 55½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 81; Ditto, Extension, 16½; Ditto, Leeds, 16½; Ditto, York, 53; North Staffordshire, 11½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 27½; South-Eastern, 71½; South Wales, 71½; Vale of Neath, 19½.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Hull and Selby, 106; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 112; Lowestoft Six per Cent, 111.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Bristol and Exeter, 96; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 70; Great Western (Birmingham), 10; Ditto, 74; North-Eastern, Berwick, 93; Ditto, York, H. and S. Purchase, 98.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8½; Bombay, Zardra, and Central India, 6½; Dutch Rhenish, 12½; Eastern of France, 40; East Indian, 24; Ditto, Extension, 23½; Ditto, C. 7½; Geelong and Melbourne, 22½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 16½; Great Indian Peninsula, New, 4½; Great Luxembourg Shares, 6; Ditto, Obligations, 3½; Great Western of Canada, 26½; Ditto, New, 9½; Namur and Liège, 7½; Paris and Lyons, 59½; Sambre and Meuse, 12½; West Flanders, 4½ ex. div.; Ditto, Five-and-a-Half per Cent, 8½.

Mining Shares have been firm on Thursday:—Coburn Copper were done at 64; Linares, 8½; United Mexican, 3½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE, May 21.—To-day's market was moderately supplied with English wheat. A few fine qualities sold at last week's quotations; but other kinds ruled heavy, at 1s. to 2s. per quarter less money. In foreign wheats—the show of which was by no means extensive—very little business was doing, at barely late rates. Floating cargoes of grain commanded very little attention. We had a dull inquiry for barley, the value of which had a downward tendency. Malt sold slowly on former terms. There was an improved demand for oats, and the finest parcels were 6d. dearer. Beans advanced 1s. per quarter, with a steady inquiry; and peas were held for more money. The flour trade was dull, and country marks were rather cheaper.

May 23.—The business doing in all kinds of produce to-day was limited. In prices, however, no change took place.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 59s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 61s. to 75s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 59s. to 70s.; rye, 38s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 33s. to 35s.; distilling ditto, 36s. to 37s.; malt, ditto, 38s. to 39s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 7s. to 7½s.; brown ditto, 10s. to 10½s.; Kingston and Ware, 7s. to 8s.; Chevallier, 8s. to 8½s.; Yorkshire and Lancashire, 6s. to 6½s.; potato ditto, 22s. to 23s.; Youghal and Cork black, 18s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 19s. to 22s.; tick beans, 35s. to 36s.; grey peas, 31s. to 32s.; maple, 42s. to 44s.; white, 38s. to 40s.; boilers, 40s. to 41s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 62s. to 63s.; Suffolk, 41s. to 42s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 40s. to 41s. per 280 lbs. American flour, 33s. to 35s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Linnseed and rapeseed are in steady request at full prices; but other seeds are a dull inquiry.

Linnseed.—English, crushing, 41s. to 52s.; Mediterranean, 54s. to 57s.; hempsaid, 46s. to 52s. per quarter. Coriander, 26s. to 30s. per cwt. English rapeseed, 88s. to 90s. per quarter. Linnseed cakes, English, £11 11s. to £12; ditto, foreign, £10 0s. to £11 0s.; rape cakes, 48 0s. to £5 10s. per ton. Canary, 41s. to 60s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 10d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4½ lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 63s. 9d.; barley, 40s. 0d.; oats, 23s. 5d.; rye, 41s. 4d.; beans, 41s. 7d.; peas, 39s. 11d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 68s. 1d.; barley, 39s. 10d.; oats, 23s. 5d.; rye, 41s. 10d.; beans, 41s. 6d.; peas, 38s. 7d.

English Grain Sold Last Week.—Wheat, 126,235; barley, 17,166; oats, 12,997; rye, 93; beans, 4718; peas, 478 quarters.

Tea.—The public sales held this week have gone off slowly, and prices have shown a tendency to give way. In the private market very little business is doing, and common sound Congou is quoted at 8d. to 8½d. per lb.

Sugar.—There has been a falling off in the demand for all raw sugars, and prices have had a downward tendency. Barbadoes has sold at 40s. 6d. to 46s.; Mauritius, 37s. 6d. to 45s. 6d.; Bengal, 40s. to 48s.; Madras, 35s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt. Refined goods move off slowly, at 53s. to 65s. per cwt. for grocery.

Coffee.—All kinds of coffee are very slow in sale, and late rates are with difficulty supported.

Rice.—Owing to the heavy stock, over 24,000 tons, our market is very inactive, and the quotations are the turn in favour of buyers.

Provisions.—Irish butter is in very moderate request, at the late decline in value. Foreign quantities are very dull, and 2s. per cwt. lower. English butter rules about stationary. The bacon market is firm, and prices have an upward tendency. Hams and lard are quite as dear as last week.

Tallow.—Very little change has taken place in the value of this article. P.Y.C. on the spot being quoted at 45s. 9d. to 46s. per cwt. Town tallow, 46s. net cash. Rough fat, 2s. 6½d. per 8 lbs.

Oils.—Linnseed oil firm, at 32s. per cwt on the spot. In other oils very little is doing. Spirits of turpentine, 30s. 6d. to 32s.; rough, 8d. to 9s. per cwt.

Spirits.—There is a moderate demand for rum, at last week's currency. Proof Lowlands, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.; East India, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. The value of brandy has an upward tendency. No change in English spirits.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 5s. to £6 6s.; clover ditto, £4 10s. to £6 10s.; and straw, £1 5s. to £1 11s. per load.

Coal.—New Tanfield, 15s.; Tansfield Moor, 14s.; Wylam, 16s. 6d.; Eden, 17s.; Gosforth, 18s.; Hedley, 15s. 9d.; Hilda, 15s. 6d.; Braddley's, 17s.; Lambton, 17s. 6d. per ton.

Flops.—We have a moderate demand for good and fine hops, at full quotations, but other kinds are a dull inquiry:—Mid and East Kent pebbles, 65s. to 130s.; Weald of Kent, 60s. to 102s.; Sussex, 65s. to 95s. per cwt.

Wool.—The public sales of wool are going off briskly, and prices rule from 1½d. to 2½d. per lb. higher. The private market is very firm.

Butter.—The supply is large, and the demand is heavy, at from 35s. to 90s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—The attendance of 3d. per 5 lbs. The demand for sheep has been active, at 4d. per 8 lbs. more money. Lambs have sold slowly, on former terms; but calves have improved in value 2d. per 8 lbs. The pork trade continues dull.

Beef. From 3s. 3d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 10d.; lamb, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 4d.; veal, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. to sink the offer.

Vegetable and Cadenhead.—Each kind of meat has sold steadily, as follows:—

Beef. From 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 10d.; lamb, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; pork, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. by the carcase. ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MAY 16.

WAR DEPARTMENT, MAY 16.

6th Dragoon Guards: J. W. Doering to be Cornet.
7th Dragoon Guards: R. D. Napier to be Cornet.
11th Light Dragoon: R. D. Napier to be Cornet.
12th Dragoon: J. C. Le Queux to be Cornet.
15th Dragoon: R. D. Napier to be Cornet.
Royal Artillery: Lieut. J. P. Morgan to be Lieutenant; Staff Sergeant Scholmister C. Warr to be Quartermaster.
Royal Engineers: Sec. Capt. F. Fowke to be Captain; Lieut. R. M. Parsons to be Second Captain.
Coldstream Guards: Hon. W. H. B. Ogilvy to be Ensign and Lieutenant; H. G. Fortescue to be Ensign and Lieutenant.
12th Foot: Ensign F. A. FitzGerald to be Lieutenant; W. E. Whelan to be Ensign.
22nd Co. Watkings to be Ensign.
35th Brevet Major F. English to be Major.

LAND TRANSPORT CORPS.—Lieuts. H. Miller, J. Cheese, J. Granger, W. Smith, J. Mackenzie, H. Norman, J. Addy, G. Donnelly, J. Smith, to be Second Captains; Cornets G. Hall and J. Pettigrew to be Lieutenants.

CAVALRY DEPT.—Paymaster J. Hely to be Paymaster.
UNATTACHED.—Lieut. R. P. O'Shea to be Captain.

BREVET.—Capt. C. V. Bowie to be Major in the Army; Brevet Col. W. H. Law to be Major-General; Major J. Teddie to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Quartermaster E. Paton to have the honorary rank of Captain.

MARY CAROLINA BLOXSONE, Cheltenham, wine and spirit merchant.

W. F. SCHMOLLINGER, Gracechurch-street, tavern-keeper.—

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—MDLLE. PICCOLOMINI.—Grand Extra Night, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24th. Combination of attractions, including the New Opera LA TRAVIATA. Violoncello, Mlle. Piccolomini. On Thursday, May 25th, there will be no performance. On Friday, May 30, a Grand Extra Night, with a variety of entertainments both in Opera and Ballet. Applications for Boxes and Stalls to be made at the Box-office of the Theatre, Colonnade, Haymarket.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—On MONDAY and during the Week (Thursday excepted) will be presented Shakespeare's Play of THE WINTER'S TALE; Leontes, by Mr. G. Keen; Hermione by Mrs. C. Keen. Preceded by THE VICTOR VANDERBILT.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—On THURSDAY next, May 24th, there will be a Morning Performance of Shakespeare's Play of THE WINTER'S TALE. To commence at Two o'clock; doors to be opened at Half-past One. And in the evening the Theatre will be closed, in consequence of the Illuminations.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Monday, May 25, and on Tuesday and Wednesday, the EVIL GENIUS; the Spanish Dancers PEREA NENA and MANUEL PEREZ, with the Corymbes; and the New Farcia of THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN. Thursday, a variety of Entertainments. Friday and Saturday, THE CONQUEROR, PEREA NENA, the New Farcia, and the POSTMAN'S KNICK.

THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday—GREEN HUSBIES, Miami (Madame Celeste), Grinlidge (Mr. Wright), Gong (Mr. Paul Bedford)—their original characters; with A BOTTLE OF SMOKE, &c. Tuesday and Saturday, GOOD NIGHT, SIGNOR PANTALONE; with PAUL PRY and A BOTTLE OF SMOKE.

ROYAL GARDENS, CREMORNE.—Open Daily at Three. Admission, One Shilling. MONDAY, May 25, and during the Week, a Grand Ballet Divertissement, introducing character dances by Mesdames Caroline Parks, Thérèse Lavina, Bertrand, Houdouin, and Morand; Sig. Varoni, and Herr Richard; with Mr. Forest in his celebrated imitations of Perea Nena. Each Evening the gorgeous new allegorical Ballet, entitled THE ISLAND OF KOSSES; or, War, Peace, and Plenty. Astounding Equestrian displays in the Colossal Oriental Circus—Concerts—Devant, the Contortionist—Thompson, the Antipodean Wonder—The Brothers Hutchinson—Light and Heat—Mr. Henderson's achievements on the Fil de Fer Volant—Performing Dogs—Dancing on the gigantic Circular Platform—Fireworks—Illuminations. Three Days' Fête—Grand Galas, Derby and Oaks Days, May 28th and 30th. Thursday, May 24th, Monday Day and Night Festival and Great Jubilee, commencing at Twelve o'clock midday. No extra charge. The Band will play on Sunday—Admission free. Table d'hôte at Six, 2s. 6d. each.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—A GRAND FANCY HAZARD will be held (D. V.) under the Especial Patronage of her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, at the Crystal Palace, on SATURDAY, the 7th, MONDAY, the 9th, and TUESDAY, 10th of JUNE next, for the BENEFIT of the QUEEN ADELAIDE NAVAL FUND.

PATRONESSES.
H.R.H. the Duchess of KENT.
H.R.H. the Duchess of GLOUCESTER.
Her Grace the Duchess of Wellington.
The Most Noble the Marquess of Hastings.
The Most Noble Frances Anne Marchioness of Londonderry.
The Right Hon. the Countess of Derby.
The Right Hon. the Countess of Shaftesbury.
The Right Hon. the Countess of Hardwicke.
The Right Hon. the Lady Hamilton.
The Right Hon. the Lady Amelia Levesque.
The Right Hon. the Viscountess Palmerston.
The Right Hon. the Lady Mary Wootton.
And many other Ladies of distinction.

The hand of the Royal Maestros will be in attendance. Admitted, not including entrance to the Crystal Palace, 1s. Contributions of Work, Drawings, &c., will be thankfully received by the Marchioness of Hastings, 21, Kensington Palace Gardens; and Mrs. Skyring, Admiralty, Somerset-house.

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GRAND EXHIBITION OF AMERICAN PLANTS.—Messrs. WATERER and GODFREY, of the Knapp Hill Nursery, Woking, Surrey, have the honour to announce that they have made arrangements with Mr. T. D. Simpson for an EXHIBITION of their AMERICAN PLANTS in the newly-erected Pavilion in Ashburnham Park, adjoining Cremorne Gardens. Particulars in future advertisements. Knapp Hill Nursery, Woking, Surrey.

MUSICAL UNION.—TUESDAY, MAY 27, Quartet in A, Beethoven; Prelude, &c., Solos from the Works of S. Minch; Quartet in E minor, Op. 44, Mendelssohn; Septet in D minor, Hummel. Artists: Ernst Cooper, Hill, Platt, Howell, Remusat, Barrett, and Pianist, Hallé. Tickets 10s. 6d. each, to be had as usual. Madame Schumann will play at the Sixth Matinee, June 10th. J. ELLA, Director.

SIGNOR GIULIO REGONDI begs to announce that his ANNUAL MORNING CONCERT will take place at the Hanover-square Rooms, on FRIDAY, MAY 30, commencing at Two o'clock precisely. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novelle, Miss Stabach, Mlle. Federica Rainaldi, Miss Lascelles, Madama Visconti Garcia, and the gentlemen of the Orpheus Glee Union. Instrumentalists: Pianoforte, Herr Todesco; harp, Herr Oberthur; Violoncello, Herr Lidel; guitar and concertina, Signor Giulio Regondi. Conductor, Signor L. Calai. Reserved seats, half-a-guinea, &c. to be had only of Signor Giulio Regondi, 21, Upper George-street, Bryanston-square. Tickets, 7s. each; to be had of the principal Music-sellers.

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By order, J. GIMSON, Secretary. May 20, 1866, Tentenden-street, Hanover-square.

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THE POISONING CASES AT RUGELEY.—TRIAL OF WILLIAM PALMER, IN THE CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE RUGELEY POISONING CASES.

TRIAL OF PALMER.

ON Wednesday morning, the 14th inst., the long-delayed trial of William Palmer, against whom the grand jury of Staffordshire have found true bills for the murders respectively of John Parsons Cook, who died suddenly at Rugeley on the 21st of November last, and of Anne Palmer, the wife of the accused, whose body was disinterred in consequence of the rumours to which the mysterious death of Mr. Cook gave rise, commenced at the Central Criminal Court, to which it was removed in virtue of the Trial of Offences Bill, which has recently received the Royal assent. The prisoner was brought from Staffordshire several days previously.

It being generally known that all attempts to obtain admission to hear the proceedings in this most remarkable case would prove useless unless provided with cards of admission, and the business in the police courts being suspended, the assemblage outside the doors of the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday morning was chiefly confined to those who enjoyed the privilege of entrance, and many of those had arrived as early as eight o'clock in the morning, from which hour until the doors were opened, which took place at nine, cabs and other vehicles continued to set down persons, those who were to be present, and at that hour a great number were assembled at the doors, and the greatest dissatisfaction was felt that no notification had been given as to the hour at which those to whom admissions had been granted would be let in. Shortly after nine o'clock a large body of police arrived, and, having been stationed at their respective barriers with a corps de reserve, the doors were thrown open, and amidst some confusion those present got into court, and from that time until the trial commenced continued to arrive, at which period it was quite filled.

Great excitement prevailed in reference to the trial, and large bodies of persons who could have no possible chance of admission crowded the avenues of the court. Day after day notices had appeared in the papers that only those who have obtained tickets of admission from the Sheriff would be admitted; and the Under Sheriffs very wisely adhered to that determination. In consequence of their very excellent arrangements the court was at no time inconveniently crowded. At ten o'clock the Judges appointed to try the case entered the court and took their seats on the bench. They were Lord Campbell (the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench), Mr. Baron Alderson, and Mr. Justice Crosswell. Amongst the officials on the bench were the Lord Mayor, Alderman and Sheriff Kennedy, Alderman and Sheriff Stowe, Mr. Alderman Cubitt, M.P., Mr. Alderman Humphrey, Mr. Alderman Wire, Alderman Sir R. W. Carden, Alderman Pinnis, Alderman Sir F. G. Moon, Alderman Sir G. G. Carroll, Mr. Alderman Lawrence, Alderman Sir H. Muggelidge, the Recorder, &c. Several noblemen and gentlemen were accommodated with seats on the bench, amongst whom were the Marquis of Anglessey, Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, Lord George Lennox, Lord William Lennox, the Earl Grey, the Earl of Derby, Mr. Wakley (the Coroner for West Middlesex), Mr. Roundell Palmer, M.P., &c.

The prisoner was placed at the bar at a few minutes past ten o'clock, and the indictment charging him with the murder of John Parsons Cook having been read by the Clerk of Arraignment, he pleaded "Not Guilty." It was generally remarked that he looked little like a man who had

committed murder, and that he had grown exceedingly stout since his committal to prison. He is a good-humoured, ordinary-looking man, and appears much older than he really is. He was invited to challenge the jury, but he made no objection to any one of the gentlemen called.

The Attorney-General, Mr. E. James, Q.C., Mr. Welsby, Mr. Bodkin, and Mr. Huddleston appeared for the prosecution. Serjeant Shee, Mr. Grove, Q.C., Mr. Gray, and Mr. Kenealy were for the defence.

The Lord Advocate for Scotland sat between the counsel for the prosecution and those for the defence. Upon the name of the first jurymen being called, Mr. Serjeant Shee said that if there was any gentleman upon the jury interested in the affairs of the insurance-offices with which the prisoner had transactions he begged he would retire, in order that there might not be any prejudice adverse to the prisoner. Lord Campbell expressed his approbation of the suggestion. The jury were then sworn.

A Mr. Mason, of Old Bond-street, was called, but begged to be excused upon the ground of his being rather indisposed, and that he felt a prejudice which would not allow him fairly to judge the case. Lord Campbell said that was quite enough.

The Attorney-General, after a few introductory remarks, said he should be obliged to ask their serious attention to a series of facts extending over a number of years. The prisoner at the bar was a medical practitioner of Rugeley, in Staffordshire, where he practised for some time. In later years he became addicted to turf pursuits, which gradually weaned him from his profession, and during the last two or three years he had made over his business, except with regard to one or two patients,

to a person named Thirlby, formerly an assistant. In the course of his pursuits connected with the turf, Palmer became intimately acquainted with Mr. John Parsons Cook, a young man of decent family, who had originally been articled to a solicitor, but having inherited property, to the extent of £12,000 or £15,000, he deserted the law for the turf, and in the course of his new pursuits became connected with Palmer. It was for the murder of this John Parsons Cook that William Palmer now stood indicted, the charge against him being that he took away that man's life by poison. The case for the prosecution was this—that being in desperate circumstances, with ruin, disgrace, and punishment staring him in the face, which could only have been averted by means of money, Palmer took advantage of his intimacy with Cook to destroy him in order to gain possession of his property. In 1855 Cook was at the Shrewsbury races. At that time Palmer was a ruined man, and immediately afterwards occurred the transaction which the jury had to inquire into. Now, he would first proceed to show the jury what was the position of Palmer at that time, because out of that position, and the circumstances in which Palmer was then placed, sprang the motive which induced him to commit the act with which he was now charged.

It seemed that as early as 1853 Palmer had got into pecuniary difficulties, and had to raise money upon bills. In 1854 his circumstances became hopeless, and at this time he was indebted to various persons in large sums of money, and he then had recourse to forgery. Amongst the bills on which Palmer paid money in 1853 was one for £2000, discounted by a person named Padwick. That bill bore upon it the acceptance of Palmer's mother, Sarah Palmer, of Rugeley. She was a woman of very considerable wealth, and her acceptances being believed to be genuine, money was readily advanced upon her security. In September of that year Palmer's wife died. He had an insurance upon the life of

his wife to the extent of £13,000, and when his wife died that insurance was realised. With the money so obtained Palmer paid some of the most pressing claims against him. He employed a gentleman of the name of Pratt, who was in the habit of discounting bills, and whose name would be a good deal mixed up with the proceedings on the present trial. Out of the money Palmer received from the insurance-offices on his wife's death, Pratt received from him £8000 to pay his debts, and a solicitor at Birmingham received £5000 for the same purpose; but still Palmer was left with considerable liabilities, and the bill of Padwick remained unpaid. At the end of the year 1854 he effected another insurance in his brother's name, or rather the policy, as soon as the assurance was effected, was assigned to Palmer.

In the month of November, when Shrewsbury races took place, there were in Pratt's hands bills amounting in the whole to £12,500, but Palmer had in the previous July paid off £1000, making a balance against him of £11,500. Every one of these bills bore the forged acceptance of his mother. With all these liabilities hanging over him he had not a shilling to pay, and the time was coming when his inability to meet his engagements would expose him, and bring him within the penalties of the law. He (the Attorney-General) should mention also, before he went into the case, that the prisoner's brother had died in the month of August, 1855. William Palmer had insured that life for £13,000, or rather the policy had been assigned to him, and he expected that the proceeds of that insurance would pay off those liabilities. But the office in which the insurance was effected declined to pay the amount, and no assistance was derived from that source.

It was several months previously to this that Cook was first mixed up with the prisoner in some of these pecuniary transactions. In May, 1855, Palmer was pressed to pay a sum of £500 due upon a bill to a person named Sargent, formerly a publican in Fleet-street. He had at that time in the hands of Pratt



THE GRAVE OF COOK, IN RUGELEY CHURCHYARD.

(Continued in Supplement.)

THE RUGELEY POISONING CASES.

(Continued from page 560.)

a balance of £310 to his credit, and he wanted Pratt to advance £190 to make up the £500. Pratt declined to do so except upon security. Palmer gave him the acceptance of Cook, and upon that Pratt advanced the money. That appeared to be the first transaction with Cook. That bill of £200, when it became due, Cook failed to provide for, and Palmer provided for it himself. In August Palmer wrote to Pratt that he must have £1000 by the next Saturday. Pratt declined to advance £1000 without security; upon which Palmer offered the security of Cook's acceptance, representing him as a man of wealth; but still Pratt declined to advance the money without some more tangible security than the personal security of Cook. Palmer proposed an assignment by Cook of two racehorses, one Pole Star and the other Sirius, which was accordingly made and executed by Cook in favour of Pratt as collateral security for this £500. The agreement was that Pratt should give £375 in money, wine-warrants for £65, discount for three months £50, and expenses £10—making, in the whole, £500. Now, Cook was certainly entitled to the £375 in cash and the wine-warrants, but Palmer ingeniously contrived that the cheque and the wine-warrants should be sent to him, and not to Cook. He



THE POST-OFFICE, RUGELEY.

wrote to Pratt, desiring him to forward them to him at Doncaster, where he was to see Cook. But he was not to see Cook there, for he was not to be there at all. Palmer thus got the cheque and the warrants. Pratt sent down the cheque stamped, as required, and, as he was justified in doing by a late act, struck out the word "bearer," and wrote "order," which necessitated the indorsement of Cook upon the back of the cheque. It was never intended by Palmer that the proceeds of the cheque should find their way into Cook's hands, and therefore he forged the name of Cook, and paid the cheque into his bankers' at Rugeley, and it went to his credit. Cook never had the money, which went to the payment of a forged three months' bill which was about coming due, and the forgery of which, if not taken up, would have been detected. This took place in August, in which month, as has already been mentioned, Palmer's brother (whose life had been insured for £13,000) died. But the insurance-office refused to pay, and the money not being forthcoming, Palmer proposed to a person of the name of Bates to have his life insured. He induced Cook to assist him in this transaction by representing Bates as a man of wealth. On the 5th of September Bates, the prisoner, and Cook, were together at Rugeley. Bates was a person who had been better off in the world, and had latterly been in the employment of Palmer as the superintendent of his stable—a sort of hanger-on of Palmer's. He was a healthy young man, and Palmer proposed to him to insure his life, and framed a proposal. Bates said he did not wish to



LORD CHIEF JUSTICE CAMPBELL, FROM A PEN-AND-INK SKETCH.

insure, and declined it. Cook persuaded him, and said it would be for his benefit, and induced him to sign for £25,000, Cook attesting his proposal. Palmer was referred to as the medical man, and the assistant, Thurlby, as a person to whom reference was to be made as to his habits. This proposal was sent to the Solicitors and General Office. That office was not disposed to entertain the proposal, and a proposition for £1000 was made to the Midland Office. This office required further information as to the position of Bates, and the matter dropped.

The Attorney-General then read a number of letters from Pratt to the prisoner, written in the months of September, October, and November last, which showed that the pecuniary affairs of Palmer were then in a desperate condition. To such a point had the pressure gone that Pratt at length resolved on issuing writs against the prisoner's mother, which he was forthwith to have served in case Palmer should not find the means of paying a portion at least of his debts. That brought them to the events connected with the races at Shrewsbury. Cook was the owner of a horse called Polestar, which won the Shrewsbury Handicap on the 13th of November; and Cook thereby not only won the stakes, which realised £381, but also a considerable sum in bets, making him altogether by that race a winner of a sum of £2050. He had also been a winner during the preceding week at the Worcester races; and it would be shown that he had while at Shrewsbury a sum of between £700 and £800, a portion of which he had received in the shape of bets won on the handicap; while the remainder of those bets, as well as the amount of the stakes, were to be handed over to him at a later period; but no account had since been obtained of these £700 or £800. Within a week of that time he died; and the important subject on which the jury had to decide upon that occasion was, how he had come by his death—whether it had been caused by the hand of man, and, if so, whose was the hand by which he had fallen? He was a young man, and had gone down to Shrewsbury in good health, as would be proved by ample evidence. On the night of Wednesday, the 14th, the night after the day of the race, a remarkable event had happened to him, to which the special attention of the jury should be directed. While he (Palmer) and a person of the name of Fisher, who was also on the turf, were talking and having some drink together, although not indulging in any excess, for Cook was always an abstemious man, the latter said to Palmer, "You will have some more, will you not?" To that Palmer replied, "No, unless you finish your glass;" whereupon Cook said, "That is easily done," and then swallowed at a draught about half a tumbler of brandy-and-water which was before him. But he had no sooner done so than he exclaimed, "Good God! there is something in it." Palmer then took up the glass, and after drinking what remained in it, which was only about a teaspoonful, said, "Oh, nonsense; there is nothing in it!" Within a few minutes Cook rose and left the room. He soon afterwards returned, and then taking Fisher out with him, told him that he was taken violently ill. He then began to vomit violently; he was put to bed; but he vomited again and again. He continued in that state for some hours, but, medical assistance having been called in, he apparently got over the attack, and at length he fell into a quiet sleep. During his illness he gave Fisher the money he had about him, desiring him to take care of it, and Fisher would tell the jury that that money amounted to between £700 and £800. Next morning he was better, and Fisher gave him back the money. On the night on which Cook had taken the glass of brandy which had been followed by his illness, a woman of the name of Brooks had called at the hotel for the purpose of seeing Palmer. As she went into a lobby opening on Palmer's room she saw him holding up to the gaslight a glass with some liquor in it; and, after he had withdrawn with that glass into his own room, he came out again and went with it into the room in which Mr. Cook was drinking his brandy-and-water; and all that had occurred shortly before Cook had been taken ill, as already described. On Thursday, the 15th, Palmer and Cook went down together to Rugeley,

where the latter put up at the Talbot Arms, an hotel exactly opposite the prisoner's house. That night he stated, in reply to inquiries addressed to him, that he had been poorly at Shrewsbury, but the people who saw him did not think that he was suffering from any serious disease. Next day he dined with Palmer, and returned to the hotel at about ten o'clock at night, perfectly sober. He then went to bed without any symptom that could lead the people about him to suppose that there was anything unusual the matter with him. Next morning Palmer visited him at an early hour, and was constantly with him in and out during the whole of that day and of the Sunday, which was the day following. Coffee was brought up to him by the chambermaid at the inn, on the Saturday morning, at Palmer's request, and Palmer was the person by whom that coffee was handed to him. Immediately after he had drunk it he was attacked by the same illness which had seized him at Shrewsbury. Palmer continued to wait on him the whole of that day and of the day following; and even toast-and-water had been sent to him from Palmer's house, while he was still tormented with the same incessant and troublesome sickness. On the Saturday Palmer ordered from the Albion Inn, at Rugeley, some broth, which he afterwards had sent over to Cook at the Talbot Arms; and as soon as the latter took a spoonful of it he was taken sick and threw it off his stomach. The prisoner soon afterwards called, and after having been told that Cook was unable to use the broth insisted on his taking some, and after Cook had done so he began immediately to vomit again. The chambermaid at the inn, who had been tempted by the appearance of the broth, and had taken a small quantity, was afterwards seized, as Cook had previously been seized, with violent



FAMILY GRAVE OF THE PALMERS, AT RUGELEY.

vomiting. On the Saturday, about three o'clock, Dr. Bamford, a medical practitioner, was called in to see the patient, who, as Palmer stated, had a bilious attack; and it should be observed that, according to other statements coming from the same quarter, Cook had been suffering from bilious diarrhoea. But it would be shown on the evidence of medical men that Cook had not exhibited a single bilious symptom of any kind. Dr. Bamford had prescribed some effervescing saline medicine; but after he had gone away the prisoner had offered more coffee for Cook, and after the latter had drunk that coffee he began to vomit again. Shortly afterwards he took some boiling water when Palmer was not there, and no vomiting ensued; but in about two hours more, when arrowroot had been administered to him in Palmer's presence, the vomiting had been renewed. On the Sunday Cook still continued ill; but Dr. Bamford, by whom he had been visited twice in the course of that day, could find no indication that he was suffering in any way from a bilious attack. They next came to the very important day in these transactions—Monday, the 19th, for the morning of that day Palmer left Rugeley to go to London; but before leaving he called early in the morning and ordered some coffee for Cook, which he himself handed to the latter, who was immediately after again seized with vomiting. Dr. Bamford saw Cook on the same morning and prescribed for him some new medicine, and after Cook had taken that medicine he began greatly to improve. He took coffee and was able to keep it on his stomach, and he continued much better the whole of that day. Palmer had, in



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM PALMER, AT RUGELEY.

the mean time, gone to London, where he met, according to previous appointment, at Beaufort-buildings, a person of the name of Herring, whom he commissioned to receive the money due to Cook at Tattersall's on that day, and whom he ordered at the same time to make two payments on his (Palmer's) own account with that money of Cook's—one of those payments being a sum of £350 to Padwick, and another a sum of £450 to Pratt. He told Herring, who was not the usual agent of Cook, to write either to himself or to Cook upon that subject; but it subsequently appeared that he was able to intercept Cook's correspondence through the instrumentality of Cheshire, the postmaster at Rugeley. Herring had paid the £450 to Pratt, but he had not paid the £350 to Padwick, in consequence of his not having been able himself to collect upon that occasion the whole of the money due to Cook. Palmer returned to Rugeley on the Monday night about nine o'clock; and from that time until ten or eleven o'clock he was frequently in and out of Cook's room. After arriving at Rugeley on that night he had gone to a person of the name of Newton, the assistant of a surgeon in the town, and asked him for some strychnine; and he accordingly got from Newton three grains of that poison. The Attorney-General then proceeded at great length to describe the circumstances connected with the death of Cook, and which took place after that event. The breath was barely out of his body when Palmer sent for women to lay out the corpse, and these women, when they arrived at the dead man's room, found Palmer searching the pockets of his coat, and under his pillow, and under his bolster. Cook had taken his betting-book with him to Rugeley; but after his death no trace of it could be found. Palmer appeared to have had no money just previously to that catastrophe; but immediately after it he seemed to have received fresh supplies, and he was known to have paid off a number of debts. He produced to Cheshire, the postmaster, a paper in which Cook was made to declare that £4000 worth of bills, in which he himself (Palmer) stood debited, had been obtained on Cook's account, and he requested Cheshire to attest the genuineness of Cook's signature to that document; but Cheshire refused to comply with that request, as he had not seen any such signature affixed by a man who was then dead. On the Friday after Cook's death his stepfather, Mr. Stevens, came down to Rugeley, and naturally felt desirous of inquiring into the state of his affairs. He was then informed by Palmer that Cook owed the £4000 worth of bills; but he (Stevens) stated that there were not 4000 shillings left by Cook, and that any claim against him could only be substantiated by an appeal to the Court of Chancery. He further learned, very much to his surprise, that Cook's betting-book and his papers had completely disappeared, and that no trace of them could be found. His suspicions having been excited that there had been foul play in the case, he placed the matter in the hands of a solicitor. When a certificate had been required of the cause of Cook's death, Dr. Bamford and Palmer had agreed to attribute it to apoplexy, and had made a return to that effect. But it could be shown by the most satisfactory evidence that that could not have been the real cause of the decease of Cook; and the fact of Dr. Bamford having subscribed his name to any such return could only be excused by the supposition that as he was a very old man he had been led into a weakness which it would be impossible wholly to justify. A post-mortem examination of the body of Cook had afterwards taken place. At that examination the prisoner, on finding that no trace of any poison had been discovered, turned round to Dr. Bamford, and made the strange remark, "Doctor, they will not hang us yet." The stomach of the deceased was upon that occasion sealed up in a jar, in order that it might be sent to London to undergo a chemical examination; and after it had been so sealed up the prisoner was seen attempting to remove it from the room, and on his being obliged to bring it back it was found that there were two cuts in the parchment at the top of the jar, while it was evident from the appearance of those cuts that nothing had been taken away through them. When Palmer learned that a postboy at Rugeley was to drive to the railway station two gentlemen who had charge of the jar, he went to him and asked him whether he could not manage to upset the car he was to drive, and to spill or break the jar, promising him £10 if he could effect that object; but the postboy refused to carry out his wishes in that respect. The viscera had been sent up to Dr. Taylor and Dr. Rees, of London, for the purpose of undergoing a chemical analysis, and they gave it as their opinion that Cook had died of the effects of poison.

After having called attention to various parts of the evidence, the Attorney-General wound up with the following summary of the course he meant to take to prove the guilt of Palmer:—

I shall show you that after the death of Cook he was flush of cash. He paid £150 into the bank in which he banked at Rugeley; he paid sums of £50 each to two or three persons in the neighbourhood; he paid money to Pratt in London; and I think I shall trace to his possession something like £400. Cook had £70 or £800 when he left Shrewsbury. None is found. It may be that Cook, compassionating the condition in which Palmer was, assisted him with money. On the other hand, I think it improbable that Cook, who had nothing to look to but the money he had won at Shrewsbury and the money he had to take for the stakes, would give it all to the prisoner. The case, then, stands thus:—You have a man overwhelmed with debt, who has resorted to the desperate expedient of forging acceptances—who hoped to meet those acceptances by a policy of insurance, but is disappointed—who is told by his agent who has discounted his bills that he must trifle with him no longer—that writs are issued, and that he will only abscond from serving them a few days longer; but that if money is sent he will hold them over. The man had ruin staring him in the face; and not only pecuniary ruin, but also the penalties attached to forgery. It will be for you to say whether the prospect of getting the £1000 he received after Cook's death would have been a sufficient inducement for him to commit this offence. But he seems to have had another and an additional object. No sooner was the breath out of Cook's body than he says Cook owed him £4000. He asked Cheshire to attest the document, but Cheshire refused. Cook had a valuable mare, Polesar; and the prisoner said he intended to have it. There was the assignment in Pratt's hands of Polesar; and if he could have found the money to pay that off he might have obtained the horse, which at that time was worth £1500. The fact of Cook being mixed up with the proposal to insure the life of Bates would lead one to suppose that Cook was mixed up in the transactions by which Palmer hoped to raise money in that way. If you believe the evidence, that on the Monday night the prisoner purchased strychnine; that on Tuesday morning he again purchased strychnine; if I show you that on Tuesday night the pills were administered by the hands of the prisoner, and that Cook died of strychnine, it will be for you to draw the inevitable inference. You may be told, and with truth, that no strychnine was found, though the contents of the body were subjected to the most searching analysis, and I am bound to say that it is so. I am told by high authority that although the presence of strychnine may be discovered by scientific tests, and that although the indication of its presence would lead irresistibly to the conclusion of its having been administered, yet its presence was undiscovered. That depends upon circumstances. It will be proved to you that a very minute dose will destroy life—that half to three-quarters of a grain will lay the strongest man prostrate; but in order that it should produce this fatal effect it must be absorbed into the system. If it is taken in a liquid form the effect is rapid. If taken in the form of a pill it requires a longer time. As the poison is a vegetable poison, the tests to discover it are much more difficult than in the case of a mineral poison. If a great dose be taken, the absorption into the system is so rapid that, before it is complete, death ensues; but, if a minimum dose is given, the contrary is the case, and experience proves that the theory I am pronouncing is borne out by practice. Experiments have been tried which show that, where the same amount of poison has been administered to animals of the same species, in which the tenacity of life may be presumed to be equal, death will ensue in the same number of minutes; and when afterwards the bodies are opened the poison cannot be discovered. It has been thought and said over and over again that the presence of strychnine cannot be detected; but those who say so have grossly misrepresented scientific men. They have never said any such thing. They say the detection of this poison is a matter of great nicety. It would, indeed, be a grievous thing if it could not be discovered. Happily, the presence of this poison is accompanied by characteristic symptoms distinguishing it from all others; and it will be for you to say in this case, when you have heard the whole of the evidence, whether those symptoms are not here exhibited. There is another circumstance to which I must allude: the presence of antimony was found in considerable quantities in the body. It is given to produce sickness, and it may be that when the deceased was sick, and there were no other symptoms, it was owing to the administration of this drug. It may be that the prisoner's only object in administering it was to bring on the appearance of disease, and then to account for the death. I shall produce before you the evidence; I am sure that you will give it your most patient attention. I have the satisfaction of knowing that the prisoner will be defended by one of the most able and eloquent men at the bar. If, after a full consideration of the whole evidence, you are satisfied of his innocence you will return a verdict to that effect; but, if he shall fail to satisfy you that he is not guilty, if the explanations which he may offer you are inconsistent with the evidence, and if the facts which I have advanced lead to the conclusion that he is guilty, then, for the best interests of society, and in the performance of the duty which you owe, I shall demand at your hands a verdict of guilty.

The learned gentleman then sat down, having addressed the Court upwards of four hours.

Ishmael Fisher, examined by Mr. Edwin James: I am a wine-merchant, and am in the habit of attending races and betting upon them. I knew the deceased, and had done so for two years. I saw him on Tuesday, the 19th of November, and he appeared quite well. On the following day, in the evening, I was at the Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury. The prisoner and deceased were staying at the same hotel, and occupied an adjoining room to mine. About eleven o'clock at night I saw the prisoner and the deceased and a gentleman named Myatt in the sitting-room occupied by the deceased and the prisoner. They were drinking grog. The deceased asked me to sit down, and I did so. Cook asked the prisoner to have some more brandy-and-water, and he said he would not have any more until he had drank his. Cook then took up his glass and drank all the liquor that was in it, and almost within a minute he exclaimed "There is something in it—it burns my throat dreadfully." Upon his saying this, Palmer took up the glass, and sipped up what remained in the glass, and said there was nothing in it. There was a very small quantity of liquor in the glass when the prisoner took it up. At this time a person named Reed, who also attends races, came into the

room, when the prisoner handed the glass to him, and asked if he thought there was anything in it, and handed it to me also, and we said there was nothing we could recognise as the glass was so empty. I said, however, that I thought there was rather a strong scent upon it, but could not detect anything but brandy. Cook went out of the room, and when he returned he called me out. I went with him into my sitting-room. He appeared very ill, and he told me that he had been very sick, and asked me to take his money. He at the same time said that he thought that Palmer had been dosing him. He gave me over £700. He did not say what I was to do with the money. The deceased was very sick again after he had given me the money, and left my room, and when he came back he again told me how he had been suffering from sickness, and asked me to go with him to his bed-room, and I did so. Another person, named Jones, went with us, and the deceased vomited violently in his bed-room, in our presence. He was so ill that I advised him to send for a medical gentleman named Gibson, and he attended upon the deceased, and gave him some medicine. The deceased was so ill that the doctor was sent for a second time; but about two o'clock in the morning he appeared to be more composed, and I left. I and Mr. Jones administered to the deceased the medicine that was sent. On the following morning I saw the prisoner in my sitting-room. He told me that Cook had been stating that he had been putting something in his brandy overnight, and he said that he never played such tricks with people, and he added that Cook was drunk. I should say the deceased was certainly not drunk when I saw him, and there was nothing about him approaching to drunkenness. The deceased appeared very ill when I saw him that morning, but a good deal better than the previous night, and I returned him his money. I afterwards saw him on the race-course, and he then looked very ill. I had been in the habit of settling the deceased's bets for him, and paying and receiving when he did not do so himself. I saw his betting-book in his hand at Shrewsbury. On the 17th of November I paid Mr. Pratt £200, at the request of the deceased. In the ordinary course the bets upon the races at Shrewsbury would be settled at Tattersall's on the Monday following, and I expected to have settled the deceased's bets, and I should have deducted the £200 from the money I received. I did not settle the account, and, consequently, my £200 were not repaid me.

Cross-examined: I was aware the prisoner and the deceased were intimately connected in racing matters, but I was not aware that they were partners, or that they owned horses jointly. They were on very intimate terms, and generally stopped at the same hotels. I do not know whether Palmer won any money at Shrewsbury. I received a letter from the deceased on the 17th of November. It was dated Rugeley, and requested me to pay £200, to make up a sum of £500 that he wished to pay to Mr. Pratt, and he would make up the remainder the next day.

Re-examined: I did not think that the deceased, from what he said, had any very great respect for the prisoner. The prisoner had a horse called Chicken, which ran at Shrewsbury and lost, and I know that he betted upon the race.

Mr. Thomas Jones, a law stationer in Carey-street, and Mr. George Reed, corroborated the evidence given by Fisher regarding what took place at the Raven Inn, Shrewsbury, on the night in question.

Mr. S. Gibson, assistant to Mr. Heathcote, a surgeon at Shrewsbury: I remember being sent for on the 14th November to the Raven Hotel, at Shrewsbury, and I saw the deceased in his bed-room. He complained of pain in his stomach and heat in his throat, and said he thought he had been poisoned. I felt his pulse, and found it was about 90. His tongue was perfectly clean. His abdomen was very much distended. I administered an emetic and sent the waitress for some warm water, and the deceased said he would make himself sick with the handle of a tooth-brush. He drank all the water, and vomited, and the water returned perfectly clean. I then went home, and sent the deceased two pills and a draught. The pills were composed of rhubarb and calomel, and the draught consisted of senna, magnesia, and ammonia.

Cross-examined: I went to work with the deceased as if he was poisoned. There was nothing peculiar in the matter which he vomited. He appeared a little excited by drink, but knew perfectly well what he was about. I consider that his brain was certainly stimulated by the brandy-and-water. I thought that the warm water was likely to relieve his stomach.

Elizabeth Mills: I was chambermaid at the Talbot Arms, at Rugeley, in November last. The prisoner lived at Rugeley, and was in the habit of coming to the Talbot Arms. I knew the deceased. He came to our hotel on the 15th November, between nine and ten at night. The prisoner came with him in a fly. He appeared to be poorly, and he said he had been ill at Shrewsbury. He went to bed about half-past ten o'clock, and on the following morning he went out about one o'clock, and he still appeared to be poorly. He returned to the inn about ten o'clock at night, quite sober and went to bed in half an hour or so, and he then told me that he had been dining at Palmer's, and he said he felt no worse. The prisoner came to see the deceased on the following morning, and asked me for a cup of coffee for him; I procured one, and I think I gave it to the deceased, and left the room. I did not see him drink the coffee; but when I went into the room shortly afterwards, I saw that it had been vomited by the side of the bed. I did not observe a jug of toast-and-water in the bed-room, but a jug that did not belong to the inn was sent down from the bed-room at night, for me to make some fresh toast-and-water in. The prisoner was in the deceased's bed-room four or five times on this day, and I heard him tell Mr. Cook that he would send him over some broth. I afterwards saw some broth in the kitchen, which I knew had not been made in the Talbot Arms, and the waitress took this broth to the deceased's bed-room. I saw the prisoner after this, and he asked me if Mr. Cook had had his broth, and the waitress said she had taken it to him; but he refused to take it, and said that it would not stay on his stomach. The prisoner then told me to fetch the broth, as Mr. Cook must have it; I did so, and left it in the deceased's bed-room; and shortly afterwards saw that it had been vomited. The same evening some barley-water was made for the deceased, and also some arrowroot; but I cannot say whether they remained on his stomach or not. On the Sunday I saw him in his bed-room, about eight o'clock in the morning, and he said he had slept well since twelve o'clock, and felt very comfortable. A large breakfast-cup of broth was brought from the prisoner's house; between twelve and one o'clock on the Sunday, and I took it up to the deceased's bed-room. I tasted the broth, and very soon afterwards I was sick. I drank about two table-spoonfuls. I vomited violently all the afternoon, and was obliged to go to bed. I was quite well up to the time of my drinking the broth. I saw the deceased on Sunday evening, and he seemed in good spirits, and not to be any worse. I saw the deceased on the Monday morning between seven and eight o'clock, when I took him a cup of coffee for his breakfast. He did not vomit the coffee. Palmer had seen him before this, but he did not come again until ten o'clock at night. The deceased got up about one o'clock, and he shaved and dressed himself and appeared much better, but said that he was exceedingly weak. Ashmall, the jockey, came to see him on the Monday, and also Mr. Saunders, the trainer. Soon after one o'clock the deceased took some arrowroot, and it remained on his stomach. The deceased went to bed at four o'clock, and between nine and ten the prisoner went into his room, and I left him there. Some pills were sent by Dr. Bamford for the deceased about eight o'clock, and I took them into his room and placed them on the dressing-table, and they were there when the prisoner went into the room. I went to bed between ten and eleven, and I was called up about twelve. I then heard violent screams from deceased's bed-room, and upon entering it I saw the deceased sitting up in bed, and he desired me to fetch the prisoner directly. I told him he had been sent for, and I then walked to the bedside and found one of the pillows was upon the floor. I picked it up and asked Mr. Cook if he would lay his head down. At this time he was beating the bedclothes, apparently in great agony, and he told me he could not lie down, and he should be suffocated if he did, and he then in a loud tone asked me again to send for Mr. Palmer. There was a sort of jumping or jerking about his head and neck, and body, all this time, and his breathing was very much affected. He screamed three or four times while I was in the room, and twice he called out "Murder." He asked me to rub one of his hands, and I found it quite stiff. It was the left hand. The fingers were all stretched out, and there was no motion in them. They twitched while I was rubbing the hand, Palmer came into the room while this was going on, and the deceased recognised him and said, "Oh, Palmer," or "Oh, doctor, I shall die." The prisoner replied, "Oh, my lad, you won't," and, after remaining a minute or two in the room, he told me to stay there, and went out. He returned in a very few minutes, and he then produced some pills, and he gave the deceased a draught in a wine-glass, after he had given him the pills: Cook said that the pills stuck in his throat, and the prisoner told me to give him some toast-and-water, and I did so in a teaspoon. His head and body continued jerking, and he seized the spoon fast between his teeth, and seemed to bite it very hard. The deceased shortly afterwards swallowed the toast-and-water and the pills, and the prisoner then handed him the draught. It had a thick, heavy appearance. The deceased snapped at the glass in the same way he did at the spoon, and he appeared unable to control himself. As soon as he had swallowed the draught he vomited it, and it appeared to me to smell like opium. After this the deceased seemed a little more easy. The attack lasted altogether about half an hour, and during the whole of the time he was quite conscious. When he was recovered, he asked the prisoner to feel how his heart beat, and Palmer went to his bedside, and put his hand either to his heart or the side of his face, and he said it was all right. I left the deceased about three o'clock in the morning, and at this time the prisoner was sitting in the easy chair, and I believe he was asleep. About six o'clock the same morning I saw the deceased again, and he told me that Mr. Palmer had left him about a quarter-past five o'clock. I asked him how he was, and he replied that he was no worse; and he then asked me if I had ever seen any one in such agony as he was the night before, and I told him I never had. He then said he was sure I should never like to see any one in such agony again, and I inquired what he thought was the cause. He replied that it was through some pills that Palmer had given him about half-past ten. The deceased was quite composed and quiet at this time, and there was no jerking or convulsion about him, but his eyes looked very wild. About twelve o'clock the deceased desired me to send Boots over to Mr. Palmer to know whether he might have a cup of coffee. A message was

brought back that he might, and that Mr. Palmer would be over immediately. When I took up the coffee the prisoner was in the room, and I gave him the coffee, and he tasted it to see that it was not too strong. Mr. Jones came to the inn about three o'clock, and I saw him in the deceased's room, and the prisoner after this told me that Cook had vomited the coffee. I saw Cook several times after this, and he appeared in very good spirits, and talked about getting up the next morning, and wished the barber to be sent for to shave him. I did not see the deceased later than half-past ten o'clock on the Tuesday night, and the prisoner was then in his bed-room, and I gave him some toast-and-water for the deceased, and the prisoner said he did not want anything more. I sat up in the kitchen on purpose to see how Mr. Cook went on, and I heard the bell of Mr. Cook's room ring violently about ten minutes before twelve o'clock, and I went up immediately. Mr. Jones slept in another bed in the deceased's room. I found the deceased sitting up, and Mr. Jones had his arm round his shoulders, apparently supporting him. The deceased, when he saw me, told me to fetch Mr. Palmer directly, and I went over to his house and rang the surgery bell, and the prisoner came to the window almost in an instant, and he opened a small casement, and I told him to come over to Mr. Cook directly, as he was in much the same state he was the night before. The prisoner made some reply, and I went back to the Talbot Arms, and in a minute or two the prisoner came into Mr. Cook's room, and the first thing he said was that he did not think he had ever dressed so quickly in his life. At this time Mr. Jones was still supporting the deceased. I went out of the bed-room and remained upon the landing about a minute or two, when the prisoner came out, and I observed to him that the deceased appeared in the same state he was the night before, and Palmer replied that he was not so ill by a fiftieth part. He then went to his own house, and returned in a very short time and went into the deceased's bed-room. I then heard the deceased ask to be turned on his right side, and very shortly after this I heard that he was dead. I saw the prisoner feeling the deceased's pulse, and he said to Mr. Jones, "The pulse is gone." Mr. Jones then put his face to the heart of the deceased, and when he had done so he lifted up both his hands, but did not speak. The prisoner then told me to fetch Mr. Bamford, and he arrived very soon afterwards, and when he came down he told me that Mr. Cook was dead, and that he was dead when he arrived. I was told afterwards that the prisoner wanted me, and I went into the deceased's bed-room. The prisoner was there alone. I said to him, "Palmer, is it possible that Mr. Cook is dead?" and he replied, "Yes, he is dead." He then asked me who I thought would come to lay him out, and I mentioned some women whom I thought he knew, and he said they were just the women, and he told me to fetch them. While Mr. Cook was staying at the Talbot Arms I saw a book which I supposed to be his betting-book. He had it with him when he stopped at the Talbot Arms before, on his way to Liverpool Races. I saw this book in the deceased's bed-room the night before he died. It was on the dining-table. The prisoner was in the bed-room the same night, and I never saw the book again. I have searched for it, but cannot find it anywhere. About ten minutes after the deceased had died, and while Mr. Jones was out of the room, I saw the prisoner in the act of searching the pockets of Mr. Cook's coat. I also saw him search under the pillow and bolster. Before Mr. Cook died I saw some letters lying on the mantelpiece, but I have never seen them since.

At the close of the examination in chief of this witness, it being half-past six o'clock, the Court rose, and the trial was adjourned to next morning at ten o'clock.

The jury, as usual in such cases, were taken, in the charge of an officer, to the London Coffee-house.

THURSDAY.

The trial was resumed this morning. The court was densely crowded, and there was no abatement of the interest which the proceedings have from the commencement awakened. Among the distinguished persons present were the Earl of Derby, Earl Grey, Lord W. Lennox, Lord G. G. Lennox, Lord H. Lennox, &c. The learned Judges, Lord Chief Justice Campbell and Mr. Baron Alderson, accompanied by the Recorder, the Sheriffs, the Under Sheriffs, and several members of the Court of Aldermen, took their seats on the bench at ten o'clock. The prisoner was then placed at the bar. The expression of his countenance was sadder and more subdued than on the preceding day. He maintained his usual tranquillity of demeanour, seldom changing his position, and gazing steadily at the witnesses.

The jury, who had been all night at the London Coffee-house, were conducted into court by the officer who had them in charge.

Elizabeth Mills, who was under examination the previous evening, was again placed in the witness-box, and subjected to a long cross-examination; but no important point in her evidence was materially shaken.

Mrs. Ann Brooks, examined by the Attorney-General: I live at Manchester. I am in the habit of attending races. I was at Shrewsbury races in November, 1855. I saw Palmer there. On the 14th (Wednesday), about eight o'clock in the evening, I met him in the street, and asked him whether he thought his horse Chicken would win? He desired me if I heard anything further about a horse belonging to Lord Derby, which was also to run, to call and tell him on the following day. I went to the Raven to see him at half-past ten o'clock on the Thursday evening. Some friends waited for me in the road. I went up stairs and asked a servant to tell Palmer that I wished to speak to him. The servant said he was there. At the top of the stairs there are two passages—one facing the other to the left. I turned to the left. I saw Palmer standing by a small table in the passage. He had a tumbler-glass in his hand, in which there appeared to be a small quantity of water. I did not see him put anything into it. There was a light between him and me, and he held it up to the light. He said to me, "I will be with you presently." He saw me the moment I got to the top of the stairs. He stood at the table a minute or two longer with the glass in his hand, holding it up to the light once or twice, and now and then shaking it. I made an observation about the fineness of the weather. The door of a sitting-room, which I supposed was unoccupied, was partially open, and he went into it, taking the glass with him. In two or three minutes he came out again with the glass. What was in the glass was still the colour of water. He then carried it into his own sitting-room, the door of which was shut. He afterwards came out and brought me a glass with brandy-and-water in it. It might have been the same glass. I had some of the brandy-and-water. It produced no unpleasant consequences. We had some conversation about the races. In the course of it he said he should back his own horse, Chicken. I was present at the race, when Chicken ran and lost.

Cross-examined: I am a married woman. I go to the races near my own home. My husband does not go with me. He holds a high appointment, and he does not sanction my going to races. A good many racing people were taken ill at Shrewsbury, and they thought it was occasioned by the water. They were affected by sickness and purging. A lady who came to meet me was attacked in this manner. The prisoner held up the glass as though to see whether anything was floating in it. He did this in the passage, which led to several rooms, and it was lighted by a chandelier. I thought nothing whatever of the occurrence at the time; and I was not examined before the coroner.

Re-examined: I have known the prisoner as a betting-man for a great many years, and we were on very friendly terms.

Lavinia Barnes said: In November, 1855, I was engaged as waitress at the Talbot Arms, Rugeley. I knew the prisoner and the deceased. I saw the latter at the inn on the 12th November, when he was on his way to the races at Shrewsbury. He appeared quite as usual at this time. I saw him on the Friday following after the races, and the day he had dined with the prisoner. He was quite sober. I saw him twice the next day, and I remember taking him some broth that had been sent by the prisoner. He said that he was too sick to take it, and I carried it down to the kitchen. I saw the prisoner afterwards; he said that Mr. Cook must have the broth, and the chambermaid took it up a second time. I remember that Elizabeth Mills was taken ill on the Saturday with vomiting, and left her work and went to bed. I saw her vomiting violently. I saw some more broth in the kitchen on the Sunday, but I don't know where it came from. I saw the prisoner between seven and eight in the morning on Monday, and I heard him tell Elizabeth Mills that he was going to London. The cup the broth was in did not belong to the Talbot Arms. Mr. Saunders, the trainer, came to see Mr. Cook on the Monday. On the Monday night I slept in a room adjoining that of Mr. Cook. Mr. Palmer had been to see him between eight and nine o'clock in the evening. About twelve o'clock, while I was in the kitchen, I heard Mr. Cook's bell ring very violently, and I went up stairs, and found Mr. Cook very ill, and he asked me to send for Mr. Palmer. He screamed, and cried "Murder!" and said he was suffocated; and his eyes looked very wild, and stood out of his head. He was also beating the bed with his hands, and he exclaimed repeatedly, "Christ have mercy on my soul!" Palmer came very shortly, and went to the deceased's bed-room, and at this time he appeared to be more composed, but said that he should die. The prisoner said to him, "Don't be alarmed, lad." Shortly after this I saw the deceased in the act of drinking some dark liquid from a glass, and I heard his teeth snap at the glass. After he had taken the draught he appeared to be more composed, and on the following morning he seemed a good deal better, and continued so all day. On the Tuesday night, about the same time, I again heard the deceased's bell ring, and the chambermaid went up to his room and I followed her, and heard the deceased screaming in the same manner as the night before. The prisoner was sent for, and as he passed me I told him that Mr. Cook was ill again, and he replied, "Oh, is he?" and went into the bed-room. The prisoner was dressed as usual. After he had been in the bed-room a short time he came out and told me that Mr. Cook was not so bad by a fiftieth part as he was the night before. He afterwards said the same thing to Elizabeth Mills. I went into the bed-room shortly after, and heard the deceased ask Mr. Jones to turn him over in the bed. I was not in the room when he died. After the death had taken place I saw the prisoner with a coat in his hand, and he seemed to be searching in the pockets. I said to him, "Oh, Mr. Cook can't be dead!" and Palmer replied, "He is; I knew he would be." I then left him in the room with the dead body. I remember seeing Palmer on the Thursday

following in the hall of the hotel, and he asked me for the key of Mr. Cook's bedroom, as he said he wanted some books and papers and a paper-knife, which he said he had borrowed from a stationer's, and he should have to pay for them if he did not return them. I accompanied him to the bedroom, and he sent me out on a message to Miss Bond, the house-keeper of the hotel. When I went back the prisoner was still in Mr. Cook's room, and he appeared to be searching among the deceased's clothes and papers, and he said he could not find the paper-knife. Miss Bond, the house-keeper, afterwards came into the room, and I left. I heard Mr. Jones ask Mr. Palmer on the Friday following if he knew where Cook's betting-book was, and Palmer said it would be sure to be found, and he added that it was not worth anything to any one else but to Cook. I remember Mr. Stevens coming to the Talbot Arms, and after he had gone Palmer told me to go and look for the betting-book in Mr. Cook's bedroom, and we did so, but could not find it. I told Palmer so in the presence of Mr. Jones, and he said it would be found somewhere, and he would go and look for it himself. I don't know how long Palmer was in the deceased's room on Thursday.

Cross-examined: I do not know the exact time that Palmer went into the deceased's bedroom on the Monday night, but I am sure it was before ten o'clock. I saw a glass near Mr. Cook's hand, but I do not know who gave it to him, and I am not sure that he had it in his hand at all. The chambermaid was near him, and so was Palmer, and I think they were holding up the glass. The deceased had a considerable quantity of clothes of all descriptions. I do not know when the bedroom door was first locked after the death. The undertakers and the women who laid out the body were allowed to go into the room by themselves, and they were there for some time.

Re-examined: I and the chambermaid were in the room while the women were engaged in laying out the body, and also while the undertakers were there. I saw a book lying on the dressing-table during the deceased's illness, but I never saw it afterwards. I looked for the book afterwards, but could not find it.

Anne Rowley said: I am a charwoman, and live at Rugeley. I remember taking some broth from the Albion Inn to the prisoner's house. I took it into the kitchen, and tasted it, and the prisoner then told me to take it to Mr. Cook at the Talbot Arms, and I was to ask whether he would take some bread or toast with it, and I was to say that Mr. Smith had sent it. A gentleman named Jeremiah Smith resided at Rugeley. He is a friend of the prisoner. I gave the broth to Lavinia Barnes, the waitress at the Talbot Arms. The prisoner warmed the soup himself while I was engaged about the house.

Cross-examined: I know that Mr. Smith was in the habit of putting up at the Albion. He was on very friendly terms with Mr. Cook.

Charles Hatley said: I was gardener at Rugeley, and I was occasionally employed by the prisoner. I was at his house on the Sunday before Mr. Cook's death, and he asked me to take some broth over to him. The broth was in a small cup with a cover to it. I took the broth to the Talbot Arms, and gave it to one of the servant girls.

Sarah Bond said: I was housekeeper at the Talbot Arms at the time of Mr. Cook's death, in November last. I remember the deceased going to Shrewsbury races, and I saw him upon his return, and he told me he was very poorly. I saw him about eight o'clock on the evening of the Sunday before he died, and he then said he was better. I saw the prisoner shortly afterwards, and asked him what he thought of Mr. Cook, and he said that he was better, and that he did not require any one to sleep with him. I had suggested that some one should do so, and the prisoner said he was so much better that it was not necessary. On the Monday morning I saw Palmer in the kitchen, about seven o'clock, and he told me that Mr. Cook was better, and he asked me to make him a cup of coffee. He remained in the kitchen while I made the coffee, and he took it from me to go to Mr. Cook with it. He then said that he was going to London, and that he had written to Mr. Jones to come and stop with Mr. Cook. Between eleven and twelve o'clock at night I heard that the deceased was very ill, and I went in at not seeing the prisoner. Palmer came shortly afterwards, and shortly afterwards I heard that Mr. Cook was very sick and very ill, and I heard him say that he thought he should die. I was standing in the passage when this occurred. The prisoner appeared to cheer him up; and when he came out of the room I asked if Mr. Cook had any relations, and he said he had only a step-mother. On the following day Mr. Jones came, and he stayed with the deceased till his death. The Wednesday morning after the death of the deceased I locked the door of Mr. Cook's bedroom, and kept the key in my possession. I afterwards gave it to the barber, to shave the deceased, and subsequently to Lavinia Barnes. The key was also given to the undertaker; and ultimately I handed it to Mr. Stevens, the father-in-law of Mr. Cook.

Mr. W. H. Jones said: I am a surgeon, and reside at Lutterworth. I was intimately acquainted with the deceased, and he occasionally resided at my house. He was twenty-eight years old at the time of his death. He was unmarried. He followed no profession, but latterly devoted his attention entirely to the turf, and kept race-horses and betted. I do not know how long he had been acquainted with the prisoner, but they had been intimate more than a twelvemonth. The health of the deceased was generally good, but he was not a robust man. He used to hunt and play at cricket. He invited me to Shrewsbury to see his horse, and I spent the Tuesday, the 13th of November, the day of the race, with him, and dined with him at the Raven Hotel, with several other friends. There was a little extra champagne on account of the horse having won, but the party broke up between eight and nine o'clock. The deceased accompanied me on my way to the train, and we stopped at the house of Mr. Trail, the clerk of the course, and I saw the deceased produce his betting-book, and he made a statement as to the amount of his winnings on the race. Mr. Cook was not at all the worse for liquor on this day, and he appeared to be in perfect health when I left him. On the following Monday I received a letter from the prisoner, informing me that Mr. Cook was taken ill at Shrewsbury, and was then confined to his bed at Rugeley with a severe bilious attack, accompanied by diarrhoea. On the following day I proceeded to Rugeley, and visited Cook immediately at the Talbot Arms. He then told me that he felt comfortable, but that he had been very ill at Shrewsbury, and that he was obliged to call in a medical man. The prisoner arrived shortly afterwards, and I examined the deceased in his presence. His pulse was natural, and his tongue was clean, and I observed that these appearances did not correspond with a case of bilious diarrhoea, and the prisoner said that I should have seen him before. I did not prescribe anything, because he was not in my hands at all; but I visited him several times, and he appeared to be getting better. He vomited once after I had given him some toast-and-water that was in the room. Dr. Bamford arrived the same afternoon, about seven o'clock, and he expressed his opinion that Mr. Cook was going on satisfactorily. Something was said about what Mr. Cook was to have, and he objected to take any more pills, and said that they had made him ill the previous night. Palmer was present when this took place. We all left the room, and Palmer proposed that Mr. Bamford should make up some morphia pills as he had before, and the prisoner told me not to tell Cook what the pills were composed of, as he objected to the morphia so much. I was in the deceased's room several times during the evening, and the deceased appeared very comfortable, and I did not observe any vomiting. I did not observe any bilious symptoms whatever about him, nor was there any appearance of his having recently suffered from such an attack. About eight o'clock the prisoner left to go to his own house, and when he returned he brought a box of pills with him, and he opened the direction in my presence and directed my attention to the handwriting, and said it was very excellent for an old man of eighty. It was very good writing. The prisoner then proposed to Mr. Cook to take the pills, and he protested very much against doing so, on the ground that they made him so ill on the previous night. Palmer pressed him very much, and at last Cook complied; and after he had taken the pills he vomited, but did not bring up the pills. After he had vomited he laid down and remained perfectly quiet. He had become much stronger before he took the pills, and got up and sat in a chair, and was in very good spirits, and laughed and joked about what he was going to do during the winter. I went down stairs and had my supper; and, as he had requested I should sleep in his room, a bed was prepared for me. I went to bed about twelve o'clock, having previously conversed for a few minutes with the deceased. He appeared sleepy, but there was nothing about him to excite apprehension. After I had been in bed about ten minutes, the deceased suddenly raised himself in his bed, and called out, "Doctor, get up; I am going to be ill," and he added, "Ring the bell, and send for Palmer." I rang the bell, and the chambermaid came, and he again called out to send for Mr. Palmer. The deceased then asked me to give him something to relieve him, and I told him Palmer would be there directly. He then asked me to rub his neck, and I did so, and observed a great stiffness about the muscles of the neck. Palmer came into the room almost immediately, and he made the remark that he did not think he had ever dressed so quickly in his life. He brought some ammonia pills with him, and Cook swallowed them; and directly afterwards uttered violent screams, threw himself back on the bed, and was dreadfully convulsed. Ammonia pills could not have been the cause of this. The deceased then said, "House me up or I shall be suffocated." The convulsions extended over all the muscular fibres of the body, every muscle was convulsed, and there was a stiffening of the limbs. I endeavoured to raise the deceased with the assistance of Mr. Palmer, but it was quite impossible to do so from the rigidity of the limbs. He then asked us to turn him over, and we did so. At this time he was quite sensible. I then listened to the action of the heart, and found it to gradually weaken; and I asked the prisoner to fetch some spirits of ammonia as a stimulant, and he left for that purpose, and returned in two or three minutes, and at this time the heart was gradually sinking in its action and life was nearly extinct. The deceased died almost immediately after Palmer returned with the ammonia. Not more than ten minutes or a quarter of an hour elapsed from the time the deceased first called out to me until his death. The immediate cause of death, in my opinion, was tetanus. By that expression is understood a spasmodic affection of the whole of the muscles of the body, leading to a stoppage of respiration and ultimately suffocation. When death took place the deceased was lying on his side, and both hands were tightly clenched, and

the head and neck were bent back into quite an unnatural position, and the body was twisted back; in fact, it was quite bowed, and if the body had been placed on the back it would have rested on the head and heels. The prisoner remained in the room for sometime after the deceased died, and I saw him upon my return, after I had been absent a short time, with the deceased's coat in his hand, and he said, as I was his nearest friend, I had better take possession of his effects, and I took his watch and his purse, which contained five sovereigns and five shillings; there was no other money. I saw nothing of his betting-book. Before I left the prisoner said it was a bad thing for him that Mr. Cook had died, for he was responsible for him for three or four thousand pounds, and he hoped Mr. Cook's friends would not let him lose it, and if they did not assist all his horses would be seized. I was present when Mr. Stevens, the stepfather of the deceased, arrived at Rugeley, and I heard the prisoner say that if Mr. Stevens would not bury the deceased he should. Mr. Stevens, the prisoner, I, and Mr. Bamford dined together on this day, and Mr. Stevens asked me to look for Cook's betting-book and papers. Palmer and I went out of the room together. He followed me as I was going to look for the papers and the betting-book. I had looked for the book before, and the prisoner then told me it was of no use to any one, but he had no doubt that it would be found. When I went to search for it a second time I could not find it, and I informed Mr. Stevens of this in Palmer's presence, but I do not recollect what he said in reply.

By the Lord Chief Justice: Nothing was said on the Tuesday night at the consultation at which the prisoner was present about the spasms of the previous night.

Cross-examined: The deceased lived a good deal at my house, and his health was generally good. I know that he had been treated mercurially, but not to any great extent. He had suffered from a slightly ulcerated throat. I know, also, that he had found it necessary to apply caustic to his tongue, but he had ceased to do so for two months before his death. I believe he had suffered from a certain disease, and that he was apprehensive of secondary symptoms. He had been in reduced circumstances, but I understood that his condition was improving at this time. I knew that he had several race-horses, and that Palmer was joint owner of one of them. He was very anxious about the race at Shrewsbury, and the result was a matter of very great importance to him. He was very much excited for two or three minutes after the race, and could not speak, but he soon recovered. The prisoner knew very well who I was, and that I was in practice at Lutterworth. The deceased told me that Dr. Savage had advised him not to take calomel or opium. When he first saw the prisoner, after the attack, he said to him, "Palmer, give me the remedy you did last night." He died quite quietly after he was turned over on his side. I stated at the coroner's inquest my opinion that the deceased died of tetanus and convulsions.

The Attorney-General produced the deposition, and said it was clear that the clerk did not understand what he was doing. He first wrote the word "compression," then "tetanus," and then both these words were scratched out, and "violent convulsions" written in their place (A laugh).

The deposition made by the witness was put in and read at length.

Cross-examination continued: I could not satisfy my mind at the time as to the cause of death. The affair was so sudden that I could not come to any satisfactory conclusion upon the subject. I brought a letter for Mr. Cook that was sent by Mr. Pratt to him at Lutterworth. He did not read it, but said he knew what it was about, and he should leave it to the next morning.

Re-examined: I heard that the prisoner and Cook had tossed up for the mare, in which they had a joint interest, and that Palmer won her. I have only seen one other case of tetanus arising from a wound. In that case the patient lived for three days, and the convulsions were not nearly so violent as in the case of Mr. Cook. In cases of epilepsy the patient is unconscious, and the other symptoms are totally different. Lavinia Barnes was here recalled, and Sergeant Shree inquired of her whether Mr. Cook did not tell her on the Monday morning that he had been taken very ill on the Sunday night just before twelve o'clock, and that he should have rung the bell for some one to come, but he thought they were all gone to bed?

The witness replied that he did say so to her.

Elizabeth Mills was recalled by the Attorney-General, and she said that on the Monday morning Mr. Cook told her that he had been "just mad" for two minutes on the Sunday night, but he did not say from what cause, except that he thought he was disturbed by hearing a quarrel in the street.

Dr. Savage said: I am a physician, and reside in Gloucester-place. I had known the deceased for four years, and I was in the habit of attending him professionally. His general health was good, but he was not a robust man. In consequence of his complaining of his throat I fancied he was suffering from some pulmonary affection. In the spring of 1855 he applied to me on account of his suffering from indigestion, and he was also alarmed upon the subject of some spots that appeared on his arm and other parts of the body. There were some slight ulcers on his tongue. He imagined these spots were of a syphilitic character, but I was of a different opinion. He said he had been under a mild mercurial treatment, and I recommended him to discontinue it, and prescribed quinine as a tonic, and cream of tartar, sulphur, and magnesia as an aperient. I never at any time administered antimony to him, and under my treatment the sores were quite well in May. I had some doubts as to the correctness of my treatment, and I asked him to call upon me if there were any fresh symptoms. He came to me in June, and afterwards, and I always examined him carefully. His throat was slightly inflamed, but there was nothing of a syphilitic character in the inflammation. I was anxious to get him away from his associates, and advised him to go abroad for two years. I attended upon him down to the month of November, and at that period I am of opinion there was nothing of the character of venereal disease about him.

By Sergeant Shree: He was a weak-minded man, and was easily persuaded to take medicines for the disorder under which he imagined he was labouring. I do not think he would have been weak enough to take quack medicines (A laugh).

Charles Newton said: I am assistant to Mr. Salt, a surgeon at Rugeley. I know the prisoner. On Monday, the 19th of November, in the evening, he came to the surgery. I was alone in the shop at the time. He asked me for three grains of strychnine, and I weighed it accurately and gave it to him in a paper. Strychnine is a white powder. He said "Good night," and took it away with him. The strychnine was not sold; but as I knew him to be a medical man I made no charge. The prisoner was not in the shop more than two minutes. I saw him again on the following day in Mr. Hawkins's shop. Mr. Hawkins is a druggist, and we occasionally purchase drugs from him. When the prisoner saw me he asked me how I was, and put his hand upon my shoulder as though he wanted to speak to me, and I went with him to the door. He then asked me when my master's son was going to his farm? Palmer had nothing to do with this matter, and I could not tell what he meant; and while we were standing together a person named Brassington came up and spoke to me, and Palmer then walked away back to Hawkins's shop, and in a short time he came out again; and I was still talking to Brassington. He did not speak to me, but went away at once towards his own house. I then went into Hawkins's shop myself, and I and Roberts, the assistant, had some conversation together about Palmer. I know a person named Thirby at Rugeley. He also dealt in drugs, and generally dispensed Palmer's medicines at this time. On the Sunday after this I was sent for to the prisoner's house, about seven in the evening, and I found him sitting by the fire, reading. He asked me to have some brandy-and-water, and I took some; and he then asked me what dose of strychnine would kill a dog. I told him a grain; and he then asked me whether it would be found in the stomach, or what would be the appearance of the stomach after death? I told him there would be no inflammation, and I did not think it could be found. The prisoner then snapped his fingers, and exclaimed to himself "All right!" The next day I heard that there was to be a post-mortem examination of Cook's body, and I went to Dr. Bamford's to ask his consent to be present, and I found Palmer at his house. He was in the study, and when he saw me he asked me what I wanted, and I told him I was going to the post-mortem examination, as Mr. Salt was engaged, and could not go. I then went to the Talbot Arms, accompanied by Dr. Harland and another surgeon named Freer. Palmer was there also. While we were standing together he said it would be a dirty job, and he should go and have a little brandy. He then went to his own house, and I went with him, and he gave me two wine-glasses of neat brandy, and drank two glasses himself. He then said, alluding to Cook, "You will find this fellow suffering from diseased throat; he has had syphilis, and has taken a great deal of mercury." We then went over to the Talbot Arms to be present at the post-mortem examination; and while it was going on he stood by the side of Dr. Bamford, and did not say a word. I was examined before the coroner, but I did not say a word then about having sold the strychnine to the prisoner on the 19th November. I first stated the fact to Cheshire, the postmaster.

Cross-examined: I did not mention the purchase of the strychnine until after the inquest. I cannot say how long it was afterwards. It might be a week, or it might have been two or three days only. I was examined for the purpose of giving evidence on behalf of the Crown. I really cannot say when I was so examined. I did not at first say anything about this purchase of three grains of strychnine; but I did mention the circumstance relating to the poisoning of a dog by strychnine. I mentioned this first to Mr. Salt. I cannot say when. I was aware, when I was before the coroner, that the prisoner was represented to have purchased strychnine at Mr. Hawkins's shop. I made a deposition before the coroner, and signed it.

The deposition was put in and read. It omitted all mention of the facts now deposed to by the witness.

Cross-examination continued: I first gave this evidence to the solicitor for the prosecution on Tuesday last. I don't think the prisoner said "this poor fellow," and not "this fellow." I do not remember pointing out some syphilitic appearances on the person of the deceased to the medical men who were performing the post-mortem examination.

Re-examined: The reason I did not mention what had occurred before was, that my master and Mr. Palmer were not friendly, and I thought

he would have been angry if he had known that I had supplied anything to Palmer. There was some disagreement upon the subject of Mr. Thirby, who was formerly Mr. Salt's assistant, being taken away from his service by Palmer. I first stated the facts to Mr. Boycott, the clerk to Mr. Gardner, at the Rugeley station. All the witnesses were assembled for the purpose of coming to London to attend the trial, and I called Mr. Boycott on one side, and told him I wanted to see Mr. Gardner, and also what I wanted to see him for.

By Mr. Grove: I have also stated that the reason I did not make the statement was, that I was afraid I should be indicted for perjury.

By the Attorney-General: I had heard that George Palmer, the prisoner's brother, had threatened to transport one of the witnesses upon the inquest upon Walter Palmer, because he had sworn that he had sold the prisoner prussic acid, and had not entered it in his book, and could not prove it. I had made no entry of the sale of the strychnine in Mr. Salt's book, and what I heard alarmed me.

The trial was then again adjourned.

FRIDAY.

The proceedings were resumed this morning, at ten o'clock. Lord Chief Justice Campbell, Mr. Baron Alderson, and Mr. Justice Cresswell, took their seats on the bench at ten o'clock. Lord Derby and Earl Grey were again present the whole of the day. The prisoner was placed at the bar as soon as the learned Judges had taken their seats. The jury were brought from the London Coffee house, where they had passed the night in the charge of three officers. The case for the prosecution was then proceeded with.

Charles Joseph Roberts, apprentice to Mr. Hawkins, druggist, of Rugeley: I know the prisoner, William Palmer. On Tuesday, the 20th November, he came to the shop between eleven and twelve in the morning. He first asked for two drachms of prussic acid. He brought a bottle with him. While I was putting it up for him Newton came in, and Palmer said that he wanted to speak to him, and took him out of the shop. I then saw Brasington come up, and he took Newton away from Palmer, and the latter returned into the shop, and asked me for six grains of strychnine and two drachms of Batley's solution of opium. I had put up the prussic acid, and I was preparing the other things for him, and while I was so engaged the prisoner stood in the doorway, and appeared to be looking into the street. I delivered the things to him, and he paid for them and took them away. After the prisoner had left, Newton came into the shop, and I had some conversation with him, and he made a remark. I had at this time been six years in Mr. Hawkins's service, and the prisoner had not bought any drugs for two years previously.

Mr. W. V. Stevens, examined by the Attorney-General: I am a retired merchant. The deceased was my stepson. I was the executor to Cook's paternal grandfather's will, and constantly had the care of him. He has had altogether about £12,000. He was attached to the law, but never followed up the profession, and recently he betook himself to the turf. The last betting-book I found belonging to him was dated in 1852. I was on friendly and affectionate terms with him down to his death, and the last time I saw him alive was in the afternoon of the 5th of November, at Kuston-square station. I think he told me at that time that he was going to Rugeley. He appeared better in health than I had seen him for a long time, and I remarked to him, "My boy, you don't look anything of the invalid now?" He slapped his chest, and said, "Oh! I am all right now." I think he added that he was quite happy now he was well. He was not a robust man in appearance, and his complexion was very pale. In the previous winter he had had a sore throat. I did not see him again until after his death. I first heard of it on the 21st of November, from Mr. Jones, of Lutterworth, and on the following day I went with him down to Lutterworth, and searched for a will and any other papers. We found a will. Next day we went to Rugeley, and saw the body of the deceased. I did not know the prisoner at this time, and Mr. Jones introduced him to me, and he then accompanied me to see the body. The first thing I noticed was a tightness of the muscles of the face, and I did not observe any appearance of emaciation from disease. Palmer and I and Mr. Jones then went down stairs, and after a short time I made some inquiries of the prisoner relative to Cook's affairs, and asked him if he could tell me anything about them. He replied, "Yes, there are £5000 or £4000 worth of bills out of his, and I am sorry to say my name is to them, but I have got a paper drawn up by a lawyer, signed by Cook, to show that I never had any benefit or any money." I expressed great surprise, and said I feared there would not be four thousand shillings to pay them, and I asked if he had no horses or property. The prisoner said that Cook had horses, but they were mortgaged; and I then inquired if there were no sporting debts due to him, and the prisoner said there was one private bet of £300 owing to him. He did not know of any other bet. I said that I thought his sporting creditors would have to take his sporting effects, as I should pay none of them. I then said, "Well, poor fellow, whether he has left anything or not he must be buried." Palmer immediately said, "Oh! I'll bury him myself, if that is all." I told him I would not think of allowing him to do that, and the brother-in-law of the deceased, who was present, remarked that he should wish to bury him. I said that I was executor, and I should take care of the funeral. I then said that I would not have the funeral immediately, because I intended to bury the deceased in London in his mother's grave. I was sorry to inconvenience the people of the inn, but I would see it done as soon as possible. Palmer said that was of no consequence, but the body ought to be fastened up at once. While I was talking to the deceased's brother-in-law, Palmer and Mr. Jones left the room, and they returned in about half an hour, when I asked Palmer for the name of some respectable undertaker in Rugeley, that I might at once order a coffin and give directions. Palmer said, "Oh, I have been and done that. I have ordered a shell and a strong oak coffin." I expressed my surprise, and said that I had not given him any authority, and added that I must see the undertaker and give him instructions about the funeral. I then ordered dinner for myself, my son-in-law, and Mr. Jones, and invited Mr. Palmer to join us. We all dined together. I was going back to London the same afternoon; and after dinner I desired Mr. Jones to be so good as to go upstairs and get me the deceased's betting-book, or pocket-book, or any others that might be there. I had seen the deceased with a betting-book in his possession. Mr. Jones immediately left the room, and Palmer followed him. They returned in about ten minutes, and Mr. Jones said he could not find any betting-book or papers. I said, "No betting-book, Mr. Jones!" and then turned to Palmer, and said, "How is this?" He replied, "Oh, it's of no use if you find it." I told him I was the best judge of that, and he then repeated that the book was of no use. I told him I had understood my son won a great deal of money at Shrewsbury, and I ought to know something about it. Palmer then said the book was of no use—when a man died his bets were done with. He added, "Besides, Cook received the greater part of his money on the course at Shrewsbury." I told him the book must be found, and the prisoner then, in a quieter tone, said, "Oh, the book will be found, no doubt." I replied, "It shall be found," and went to the door of the sitting-room and called the housekeeper, and told her to lock up the deceased's bedroom, and let nothing be touched until I returned, or sent some one for the property. Before I went away I proceeded upstairs to take a last look of the body, and found the undertaker in the room, and I gave him directions with regard to sending the body to London. It was uncovered at this time. I knelt down by the side of the shell, and on taking hold of the right hand of the corpse I found that it was clenched. I then looked across the body, and saw that the left hand was clenched in the same manner. I made no remark at the time, but on the following morning I communicated with my London solicitor, and he referred me to Mr. Gardner, of Rugeley. I proceeded to Rugeley again on the following day, and I saw the prisoner on the platform at Kuston-square. He told me that he had been summoned to London by telegraph after I had left the night before. I asked him where Mr. Cook's horses were kept, and he told me at Hednesford, and he said he would drive me over if I liked. When we arrived at Wolverton I saw him again, and I told him it was a very melancholy thing the death of my poor son happening so suddenly, and that I thought, for the sake of his poor brother and sister, who were sometimes delicate, it might be desirable to know what his complaints were, and I should like his body opened. Palmer replied, "Oh, that can be easily done;" and nothing more passed. He travelled with me after this in the same carriage to Rugeley, and we went into the refreshment-room, and I told him that as I lived at a distance I thought I had better ask some solicitor to look after my interest. He said I could do that, and asked if I knew any solicitor, and I said I did not. We then separated, and when I got back to the carriage I found Palmer there. Nothing more occurred until we reached Rugeley, and Palmer then said I had been talking about a solicitor, and he asked if I knew one in Rugeley, and I told him I did not. He then said he knew them all intimately, and he could introduce me to one; and he added that he must go home and have a cup of coffee, and that he would tell me all about it. I thanked him, and said I would not trouble him, and I then changed my voice, and said, "Mr. Palmer, I suppose, if I call on a solicitor to give me advice, you will not object to answer any questions that he may choose to put to you?" I looked steadily at the prisoner, and observed a spasmodic convulsion of the throat, and he replied with an effort, "Oh, no; certainly not." He was perfectly calm and collected when I mentioned the post-mortem examination. After a short pause the prisoner again said he would come and speak to me about a solicitor, and I begged him not to trouble himself. During this evening I had some conversation with him about the bills, and he said it was a very unpleasant affair to him. I told him I thought it right to inform him that since I had left him I heard a different account of Cook's affairs. He replied, "Oh, indeed? Well, I hope it will be settled pleasantly." I told him it could only be settled in the Court of Chancery; and he again replied, "Oh, indeed!" Later in the evening he came into the room. I was then sitting writing, and he approached me with a bit of paper in his hand, as if he was going to give it to me. I did not take it, but went on writing. I said, "Pray, Mr. Palmer, who is Mr. Smith?" He repeated "Mr. Smith" two or three times, as if he did not know such a person. I said, "I mean Mr. Smith who slept in the room or sat up all night with my son." He replied, "Oh, he's a solicitor in this town." I said, "I ask you the question, Sir, because the betting-book is missing, and I should like to know who was with him when he died." I asked if Mr. Smith practised there. He said "Yes." After a short pause I said,



THE TALBOT ARMS INN, RUGELEY.

"Pray, Mr. Palmer, did you attend my son in a medical capacity?" He said, "Oh, dear, no!" I said, "I ask you that question because I am determined to have his body examined: if you had attended him medically, the gentlemen I shall call in will feel it proper that you should be present." He then said, "Can you tell me who is to perform the examination?" or words to that effect. I said, "I cannot; I shall not know myself until to-morrow. I thought it right to tell you of it. I shall have it done to my satisfaction after what you have said, and it is a matter of indifference to me whether you are present or not." He said, "So it is to me." He again the same evening asked me who the medical men were. When I first saw the body on the Friday it had no appearance whatever of decomposition; on the contrary, it did not look like a dead body, and I was startled.

Dr. John Harland, physician at Stafford: I went from Stafford to Rugeley on November 26 to make a *post-mortem* examination. I arrived about eleven o'clock in the day. I called upon Dr. Bamford. As I went to him I was joined by Palmer. He said, "I am glad you have come to make a *post-mortem* examination. Some one might have been sent whom I did not know." I said, "What is this case? I hear there is a suspicion of poison." He said, "Oh no, I think not; he had an epileptic fit on Monday and Tuesday night, and you will find old disease in the heart and in the head." We then went on together to Dr. Bamford's. Palmer said there was a queer old man who seemed to have suspected something; adding, he did not know what he would be at, or what he wanted.

He also said, "He seems to suspect that I have got a betting-book—Cook had no betting-book which would be of use to any one." The witness then gave a minute account of the appearance of the body on the *post-mortem* examination. The body was very stiff—much stiffer than dead bodies usually are five or six days after death. The muscles of the body were strongly contracted and thrown out. The hands were stiff and firmly closed. The abdominal viscera were in a perfectly healthy state; the liver was healthy. The lungs were also healthy; they had blood in them, but not more than could be accounted for by gravitation after death. The brain was quite healthy. There was no extravasation or any serum in the brain; nothing which would cause pressure. The heart was contracted, but contained no blood. That appeared to arise, not from disease, but from spasmodic action. There was no appearance of anything in the stomach which could at all account for death. After the stomach had been examined, Palmer, who had been watching the proceedings very attentively, said to Mr. Bamford, in a loud whisper, "They won't hang us yet." He afterwards made the same remark to various persons. A second *post-mortem* examination was held on the 25th of January, of which a report was read. It was dated the 25th January, 1856, and, after stating that there was still much rigidity of the muscles, that considerable force was required to alter the position of the different limbs, and that the fingers were firmly fixed and the soles of the feet inverted, it went on to describe the state of the spinal cord, and the conclusion the medical men came to on that point

was that the spinal cord was in its usual normal character and condition, allowance being made for decomposition after death, and that there was nothing about it to account for the death of the deceased.

James Myatt said: In November last I was postboy at the Talbot Arms. On the 28th November I was ordered to take Mr. Stevens to the Stafford station, and before I started I went home to get my tea. As I was returning I met the prisoner, and he asked me if I was going to drive Mr. Stevens to Stafford. I told him I was, and he then asked me if I would upset the jars. He said before this he supposed I was going to take them, and I said I believed I was. He then asked me if I thought I could upset them, and, if I could, there was a £10 note for me. I told him I could not, and said I must go, as the horse was in the fly, waiting for me at the Star; and, if I did not go, some one else would go. The prisoner told me not to be in a hurry, for if any one else went he would pay me.

Samuel Cheshire, who was brought from the gaol to give evidence, said: I was formerly postmaster at Rugeley, and I am now under sentence for having read a letter. I went to the Shrewsbury races with the prisoner in 1855; it was the day Polestar won. I returned to Rugeley the same day, and on the Saturday following I saw the deceased in bed at the Talbot Arms. The prisoner took me. The same day I received a message from the prisoner, desiring me to go to him, and take a receipt stamp with me. In consequence of that message I went to his house, and purchased a shilling's worth of stamps on my way. I found the pri-

(Continued on page 566.)



RUGELEY—SKETCHED FROM THE RAILWAY.

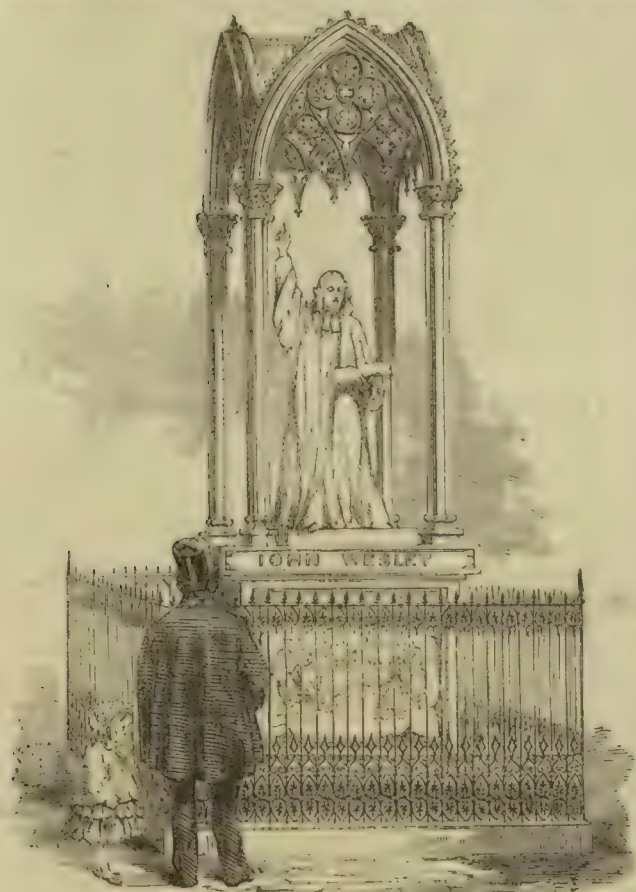
MONUMENT TO JOHN WESLEY.

THERE have already been memorials raised to the founder of Methodism; but the place of his birth does not possess any sculptural record of the event. We are, therefore, gratified to learn that the good people of the town of Epworth, in Lincolnshire (Wesley's birthplace), propose to commemorate his excellence by the erection of a statue "by a National Penny Subscription," so as to afford all classes the means of participating in the good work. The movement originated with Dr. Dunn, of Doncaster, who, in April last addressed the following admirable letter to Mr. Joseph Merrils, solicitor, of Epworth:—

My dear Sir,—On the 17th June, 1703, a child was ushered into the world at the old Rectory House of Epworth, which child was rescued from the flames when six years old by two courageous and humane inhabitants of that town. The subsequent career of that child was most remarkable, showing that an all-wise Providence had saved him for purposes of his own. Any man that could have brought about a revival of religion in the eighteenth century, and more especially in the early part of it, must have been a man specially designed, highly gifted, and spiritually guarded. Such a man was John Wesley, who has left his name, his fame, and his works as a light, an example, and a triumph for all and every one who dares to be virtuous in a vicious age, and was willing to suffer for Christ's sake. While statues of bronze and of marble are reared to perpetuate the memory and the deeds of soldiers, poets, and statesmen, is it not surprising—nay, humiliating—to reflect that John Wesley, who did so much, suffered so much, accomplished so much, whose followers and admirers are numbered by millions, should have not one lasting monument to perpetuate his memory, or to act as a stimulant to others to follow his example? If it is right that this omission should be rectified, then it is right that Epworth should claim—nay, insist—upon its being the site for such monument. I now write to ask your kind and zealous co-operation in this good work, and to beg of you to fix a time before or after my lecture on Thursday next, where the preliminaries may be arranged, a secretary and treasurer appointed, and subscriptions entered into. I am a Churchman, you are a Wesleyan; but I believe that Churchmen, Wesleyans, and Dissenters of all denominations will not fail to assist in this good work. One thing only I earnestly entreat, that the inhabitants of Epworth will not be lukewarm in this matter, which so nearly concerns them, and that they will listen to no suggestions which would rob them and their native town of the honour and ornament that such a work would confer.

I am, my dear Sir, yours most faithfully,
To Josiah Merrils, Esq., Solicitor, Epworth. GEORGE DUNN.

Mr. Merrils, who entered at once zealously into the subject, invited many of the inhabitants of Epworth to be present at the lecture, when they re-



MONUMENT TO JOHN WESLEY, TO BE ERRECTED AT EPWORTH.

ceived Dr. Dunn's remarks with great enthusiasm, and formed a committee to carry it out. A report of the lecture having been inserted in many of the provincial papers, the proposal was everywhere favourably received. In Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Bradford, and Hull, arrangements have been made and subscriptions received, and we have little doubt there will be few but who will be anxious to contribute their penny. Mr. Tilbury, the artist, has designed the intended monument, which is exceedingly appropriate. The statue of Wesley, 7 feet 9 inches in height, is placed upon a square stone basement 9 feet high, in which there will be three *alto-relievo* panels 6 feet by 4 feet 6 inches, the one in front representing "The Last Supper," and one on each side—"Christ Blessing Little Children," and "Christ Healing the Sick." Upon this basement rises a Gothic floriated baldachino, or canopy, underneath which is, of course, the figure. The attitude of Wesley is indeed expressive, holding the Bible in one hand. He is represented as exhorting the people with that earnestness and truth which so distinguished his life. Altogether, from the ground to the apex of the arch, the height will be twenty-five feet. The whole is surrounded by an appropriate palisading. In carrying out this elegant work of art everything depends upon the amount of the subscriptions; but it is much to be desired that a design which reflects such credit upon Mr. Tilbury should be perfected in the most substantial manner.

STATE OF ITALY.—HALE-MEASURES.—The *Corriere Italiano* of Vienna (a journal believed to be semi-official) has some remarks on the state of Italy, especially the Pontifical States. It characterises the reports of great sufferings and discontents among the population as considerably exaggerated, but it does not deny the necessity of reforms in the Roman States. These reforms should be, the organisation of public instruction, a radical change in the judicial system, participation of the laity in public functions, and a proper regulation of municipal administration confided to a central representation. In addition, a general recruitment is necessary to supply the Pope with a standing army; but it adds that, to carry out these reforms, the prolongation of the occupation by the French and Italian troops is necessary.

THE AUSTRIANS IN PARMA.—The state of siege is excessively rigorous and annoying to the inhabitants. After ten at night Austrian patrols arrest every man they meet in the streets. More than 200 have been thus arrested. Words can scarcely describe with what indignity these persons, who are only arrested on suspicion, are treated in the prisons, where they are shut up indiscriminately. Sometimes twenty days elapse before they are examined, when most of them, against whom nothing can be proved, are set at liberty. The prisons in which political offenders are locked up are guarded by Austrians; and in reply to the request of some of these unfortunate innocent men to be allowed to purchase some better food, the Austrian gaoler replied that "prison fare was quite good enough for them." The persons arrested belong chiefly to the working classes. When one of them is arrested the shop in which he works is immediately shut up, and thus whole families are punished on a simple ground of suspicion against an individual member, and, should any kind-hearted friend offer relief, he is immediately arrested and thrown into prison for having shown sympathy for a suspected person. The arrest of fifty young men, who have been sent off under an escort to Mantua, has aroused public indignation to an extraordinary pitch. The Austrian authorities themselves own that the only cause of their arrest was that they were known to entertain political principles not fully conformable to those entertained by the Government of Parma. The Austrian General said that they would not be brought to trial, but simply be locked up in the fortress of Mantua until they had given evident proofs of a return to better sentiments towards their legitimate Government. Some of these unfortunate young men were arrested by mistake, and, on a representation to this effect being made, the Austrian General replied that he was sorry for it, but he could not release them, as it would be dangerous to admit that the authorities could commit an error.—*Letter from Parma, May 8.*

THE FLYING FOXES AT THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.

WHIT-MONDAY is always a great day at the Zoological Gardens. In 1853, under the auspicious radiance of a glorious sun, the visitors exceeded 22,000; in 1854 they were almost equally numerous; in 1855 unfavourable weather intervened; but on Monday week, if we take holiday numbers as a test of popularity, this interesting establishment well nigh achieved a greater triumph than ever. By eleven o'clock the crowd at the gates became oppressive, and from that time till the rain began to fall in the afternoon the stream flowed in continuously. At two o'clock the broad walk of the Park, the main pedestrian thoroughfare to the gardens, "was black with people," as an old observer remarked to us, all wending their way after dinner to the lions and tigers, giraffes, hippopotami, and elands. By three o'clock 16,000 visitors had entered, when the first drops of rain slackened the steps

of the host without; and as the certainty of a wet evening grew more confirmed influx ceased.

Never before had the holiday-makers seen a nobler collection, more numerous, or better ordered. The retarded spring still keeps the green foliage in; and the lilac bloom, which ought before this time to have clothed the gardens with a cloud of colour, is still unfolded; but neatness and preparation are discernible on all hands; and after the first week of summer every corner will be bright and full of interest.

Since our last notice of the Zoological Society several additions have been made to their menagerie, of which we have selected the most curious as the subject of our present illustration. The Flying Fox is the largest of the fruit-eating bats of India, and is often erroneously called the Vampire. The latter name really belongs to a smaller group of blood-sucking bats which inhabit South America.

The Flying Fox (*Pteropus edulis*), when perfectly adult, has a large head, with not a little of the expression of a fox about it, and an expanse



FLYING FOXES IN THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.

of wing which measures at least three feet, and therefore gives to its flight a nobleness of sweep to which the flickering evolutions of the insectivorous bat of Europe are infinitely inferior. During the day the Indian *Pteropus* repose in the deep shade of the banyan-trees, suspended by their powerful feet, and wrapped round with their beautiful dark-brown wings as closely as a mummy in a cerecloth. When evening comes they issue out and wheel majestically down to the margin of the river, of the reservoir, where the sportsman is waiting silently for the approach of some higher quarry at the drinking-places. Close to him glides the *Pteropus*—not unperceiving, but without fear; and some believe that in the darkness it alights on the earth to drink at the water's edge. But as in that case it would have great difficulty in taking flight again, without hooking itself to some stray branch trailing on the ground, and thence ascending to a sufficient height to fling itself clear into the air, it is probable that it drinks like the swallow, on the wing.

The movement of the *Pteropus*, when not in flight, closely resembles that of the stork. The first digit of the wing terminates in a hooked claw, which grips firmly, and the body, when this claw is in action, assumes a pendulous horizontal position parallel to the branch on which it travels.

These very interesting animals were brought over from India for the society by Captain Nesbit. They appear to be perfectly sensible of the kindness of their keeper, and feed freely from his hand.

AMERICAN DECREES ON COURT COSTUME.—Mr. Marcy, the American Secretary, who has manifested such an obstinate and impracticable spirit in his political correspondence with our Government, is determined to be

consistent in all things, and has actually, after due consultation with the Government tailors of the United States, defined and prescribed the dress in which all American gentlemen must appear at Foreign Courts, and our own especially. The order which has been conveyed to the members of the diplomatic corps, but to all free and independent citizens, who thus do not enjoy the same liberty of action which the subjects of the monarchies of Europe to a certain extent do. The costume which the united taste and wisdom of Mr. Marcy and his coadjutors have decided on consists of an ordinary black dress-coat, a white waistcoat, white cravat, black pantaloons or breeches, silk stockings, a black sword, and a cocked hat. Several American gentlemen have openly expressed their feelings of annoyance at this proceeding of Mr. Marcy. They would willingly, when seeking for their own pleasure, to pay their respects to the Sovereign of Great Britain, and as a matter of true politeness and good taste, conform to the usages and customs of her Court; but this order of Mr. Marcy is of so imperative a nature as to leave the intelligent members of the great republic no option.

GOOD CAUSE FOR RUSSIAN SATISFACTION.—The Russian officers in the Crimea, according to recent letters, express the greatest delight that the war is ended. "Some," says a letter just received, "laughed at us very much for not having taken Sebastopol, and the whole Crimea, after the battle of Alma, when, they said, they had only 26,000 men in all the Crimea. At Inkerman they had 40,000, and now 250,000 in the Crimea. They refer the cause of all their sufferings to not having a railway from Moscow, or roads through the provinces, so that transport in wet weather was nearly impossible. We had, of course, many invitations to Moscow and St. Petersburg, which we returned with similar ones to them. The hospitals were all full of patients, and typhus raging severely. They said Simpheropol was in a terrible state during the bombardment, full of wounded; and that of the Fourth Division, which was in Sebastopol almost since the beginning of the siege, there is hardly one of the old officers left."



PLOVERS.—(SEE PAGE 571.)

TRIAL OF WILLIAM PALMER.

(Continued from page 564.)

soner in his sitting-room, and he said he wanted me to write out a cheque, and he produced a copy. I did as he requested, and he said it was for money that Mr. Cook owed him. I left the cheque in the possession of the prisoner. He told me the reason he wanted me to write the cheque was that Messrs. Weatherby, upon whom it was drawn, would know his handwriting; and he said he was going to take the cheque for Mr. Cook to sign.

Mr. Weatherby, the secretary to the Jockey Club, was here called, and he explained that it was his duty to pay the stakes to the owners of winning race-horses, and he also kept a bank. The deceased had a banking account with him. He knew Palmer. He kept no account; but he had paid him stakes that he had won. On the 21st November he received a cheque bearing the signature of the deceased. He returned that cheque to the prisoner by post. The amount of the cheque was £350. [The cheque in question was then called for on the part of the prosecution, but it was not produced.]

The examination of the witness Cheshire was then resumed. I remember that the cheque was drawn in favour of the prisoner, and that the amount was more than £300. The prisoner sent for me again on the following Friday after Mr. Cook's death. He was in his kitchen, and he went out and brought back a quarto sheet of paper, and he gave me a pen, and asked me to sign it. There was writing on the paper, and I asked him what it was. He said I knew that Cook and he had had dealings together, and the document was one Cook had given him some days before, and he wanted me to witness it. I asked him what it was about, and he said it was some business in which he had joined with Cook, and that it was all for Cook's benefit, and this was the document stating so. I think the handwriting of the paper was Palmer's. I told him I could not sign such a document, as I had not seen Cooke sign it, and that I might be called upon afterwards to give evidence respecting it, and the local authorities would not like my leaving my place for such a purpose. (The production of this document was then called for. It was not produced.) I believe there was a stamp upon the paper, and it contained a statement that certain bills were all for Mr. Cook's benefit, and not Mr. Palmer's. The amounts were rather large, but I do not remember the precise sums; but one was for £1000 and another £500. It was signed "J. P. Cook." I was in the habit of giving the prisoner letters addressed to Mr. Cook. While the inquest was going on I remember the prisoner asking me, if I heard anything fresh to let him know. I thought it was a temptation for me to open a letter, and I told him I could not do so. The letter I am suffering imprisonment for is one addressed by Dr. Taylor to Mr. Gardner. I read a portion of that letter, and communicated what I had read to the prisoner. I informed him that Dr. Taylor said that no traces of strychnia had been found in Cook's body. The prisoner, when I told him this, replied that he knew they would not, for he was perfectly innocent.

Mr. Hutton, the chief constable of the Staffordshire police, here produced a letter sent by the prisoner to Mr. Ward, the coroner. It was read, and stated that he knew Professor Taylor had stated that he could not discover either strychnia or prussic acid in the body, and that he hoped the verdict would be that he died from natural causes. It concluded—"Every yours, W. P."

Mr. Ellis Crisp, Inspector of police at Rugeley, said: On the 17th December I assisted to search the prisoner's house, and found the book I now produce. It contains the following entry in the prisoner's handwriting—"Strychnine kills by causing a tetanic fixing of the respiratory muscles."

Mr. Elizabeth Hawkes said: I keep a boarding-house in Beaufort-buildings, Strand. I know the prisoner. He was at my house on the 1st of December last, and I purchased some game and a turkey for him on that day, and the porter purchased some fish. The things were all packed up in a hamper, and I directed the hamper to Mr. Ward, the coroner, at St. Luke's Hospital.

Mr. G. Herring said: I live at New-cross. I am independent. I knew the deceased, and I saw him at Shrewsbury races. I put up at the Raven, and occupied rooms next to that occupied by the prisoner and Mr. Cook. On the Wednesday of the races I saw a considerable sum of money, in bank notes, in the possession of the deceased. He showed me his betting-book, and it contained entries of bets he had made upon the races. On Monday, the 14th of November, I received a letter from the prisoner, in which he requested me to call upon him at his lodging in Beaufort-buildings. I went at the time appointed, and saw the prisoner. I asked him how Mr. Cook was, and he said he was all right, as a physician had given him a dose of calomel, and advised him not to come out. The prisoner then said, what he wanted me for was to settle his account. He had a sheet of note paper in his hand, and said, "This is it." He told me I had better take it down, and his paper would be a check against me. I then took down from his dictation the particulars of the bets to which Cook was entitled. The result was, that £384 would be received net, and he said he would give me £16 to make up £1000. He then directed me to pay Mr. Pratt £450, and Mr. Padwick £350, out of the money I was to receive. He asked me to draw cheques at once for these amounts, but I refused, as I had not yet received the money, and he said it would be all right, as Cook would not deceive him; and he was particularly anxious that I should pay Mr. Pratt, as he said it was for a bill, or a joint bill of sale, on the mare. Before the prisoner left he said that when I had settled the amount I was to write down either to him or Cook. I replied that I should certainly write to Mr. Cook, as I thought I was settling his account, and the prisoner then said that it did not much matter which. I then went to Tattersall's and received all the money except £110, and I sent a cheque for £450 to Mr. Pratt, and posted a letter addressed to Mr. Cook at Rugeley, as the prisoner had directed me. On the following day I received a telegraphic message from Rugeley, in consequence of which I again wrote to Mr. Cook. The witness then produced three bills of exchange, and he said that one of them was drawn in Palmer's handwriting, and the other two accepted in the same hand. The acceptance of one of the bills was in the handwriting of the deceased, and he appeared to be the drawer of the other two. He said he received these bills from Mr. Fisher, and gave cash for them. The bills were read. They were each for £200, and were dated Rugeley, September 15, 1855; one was at one month and the other at two months' date.

Examination continued: When the first bill became due Cook paid me £100 upon it, and he paid me the remainder at Shrewsbury. He then produced another bill of exchange.

Mr. Strowbridge, the manager of the bank at Rugeley, was here called, and he said that the bill which had just been produced was drawn and indorsed by the prisoner, but that the acceptance, which purported to be that of the prisoner's mother, was a forgery. It was for £500, at three months' date.

Mr. Herring then further stated that this bill bore the genuine indorsement of the deceased. He received the bill from Mr. Fisher, and he gave the prisoner £200 and Mr. Fisher £275, retaining £25 for the discount.

Cross-examined: Several people were taken ill at Shrewsbury at the time of the races. He was attacked by diarrhoea himself. He saw Cook several times on the racecourse. It was very wet and damp, and he remonstrated with him upon his being out in such weather.

The trial was then again adjourned until ten o'clock on Saturday morning.

SATURDAY.

The trial was resumed this morning very shortly after ten o'clock. The Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Baron Alderson, and Mr. Justice Cresswell took their seats on the bench as usual, and the prisoner was then placed at the bar. He appeared a good deal careworn, and did not by any means present the confident appearance that was observed at the commencement of the trial. The evidence for the prosecution was then further proceeded with.

George Bates, examined by Mr. E. James: I was formerly a farmer, but I am now out of business. I have known the prisoner Palmer for eight or nine years. In September, October, and November, 1855, I was employed by him to look after his stud of horses. I was not paid any salary, but I was to receive money occasionally, sometimes one and sometimes two sovereigns per week. I lodged in Rugeley. I knew the deceased Mr. John Parsons Cook, and about September I saw him at the prisoner's house. I dined with him at Palmer's. During or after dinner I remember something being said about insuring my life.

Serjeant Shee urged that this was irrelevant matter, and the Court decided in favour of the objection.

Examination continued: I remember seeing the prisoner on the morning of the inquest, on the 8th of December, and he gave me a letter addressed to the coroner, Mr. Ward, and also one addressed to a Mr. Frantz, a dealer in game at Stafford, and he told me there would be a package of game from Frantz, and I was to direct it and send it to Mr. Ward. I did receive a basket of game, and I directed it to Mr. Ward, the coroner, at Stafford. I sent the game by a man, and I delivered the letter myself to Mr. Ward at the Dolphin Inn, at Stafford. He was in the smoking-room, and I told him I wished to speak to him, and he followed me into the yard, and I gave him the letter there. The prisoner did not give me any particular instructions as to the manner in which I was to deliver the letter. I saw the prisoner at Rugeley the same evening, and told him I had done as he had directed. On the 13th of December I was sent for again by the prisoner, and I went to his house and found him in bed. He told me he wanted me to go to Stafford, to take a letter to Webb Ward, and I was not to let any one see me deliver it. He also told me to go to "Ben," and tell him he wanted a £5 note. "Ben" was his former assistant (Mr. Thirby). Prisoner at the same time said he had no small change. He then asked me to look in a drawer in his dressing-table, and tell him the amount of a bill that was there. I did so, and found a bank bill for £50, and I told him the amount. I left the bill in the drawer; this was before he gave me the letter to Ward. I then went to Mr. Thirby, and he gave me a £5 local note, and I took it back to Palmer. I went down stairs, and when I went up the prisoner was in bed writing the letter to the coroner. I was away about half an hour, and when I went to Palmer the second time he gave me the letter to take to Stafford. I found the coroner near the railway station, and handed him the letter, and he crumpled it up in his hand,

and put it into his pocket. I believe I told him whom I had brought the letter from. I went back to Rugeley and saw the prisoner again the same evening, and told him that I had given Ward the letter. He did not make any reply.

Mr. T. B. Curling, examined by the Attorney-General: I am a member of the College of Surgeons, and belong to the London Hospital. I have turned my attention particularly to the subject of tetanus, and have published a work on the subject. Tetanus proceeds from spasmodic affection of the muscles. There are two descriptions of the true disease—idiopathic and traumatic. It sometimes proceeds from other diseases—Traumatic tetanus is that which proceeds from a wound, and the idiopathic form of the disease is that occasioned by exposure to damp or cold, or from the generation of worms in the alimentary canal. I have never seen a case of idiopathic tetanus, but I have seen a great many of the traumatic. In my twenty-two years' experience at the hospital, I have never seen a case of idiopathic tetanus, but I have seen certainly fifty of the other. In traumatic tetanus the disease first manifests itself by stiffness about the jaws, the back of the neck, and muscles of the abdomen, a dragging pain at the pit of the stomach, and in an acute case, the muscles of the back are extensively affected. The spasms are, although continuous, liable to aggravations and paroxysms; and, if the disease goes on, the paroxysms are more frequent and more severe. When they occur, the body is drawn backward, and, in some instances, though less frequently, forwards. A difficulty of swallowing is also a very common symptom, and so also is a difficulty of breathing during the paroxysms. Supposing the disease to be fatal, it might end in two ways—the patient either dying suddenly from suffocation, through the closure of the opening of the windpipe, or the patient might be worn out by severe and frequent struggles, and would gradually sink and die. It is generally a fatal disease. The locking of the jaw is almost always a constant symptom of tetanus from a wound, and it generally arises in an early stage of the disorder. There is also always a peculiar expression of the countenance—a contracted condition of the eyelids—a rising of the ends of the mouth, and a contraction of the brow. The lower extremities are sometimes affected, and sometimes, but very rarely, the upper. This generally occurs at an advanced period of the disorder. I never knew a case of traumatic tetanus being produced by a sore throat. I do not think it could be produced by certain syphilitic symptoms.

The Lord Chief Justice having made an observation in relation to the nature of the inquiry, the Attorney-General said he was compelled to ask the question because he had received notice from the solicitor to the prisoner that this was to be set up as a defence.

Examination continued: In cases of traumatic tetanus the period of duration of the disease varies from twenty-four hours to three or four days. In cases of idiopathic tetanus the shortest period of the duration of the disease was eight or ten hours. I never heard of a case where a man would be attacked by it one day, get better, and then be attacked again. I have heard the account given of the death of the deceased, and in my opinion the symptoms were not consistent with any form of traumatic tetanus that ever came under my observation. There was the sudden onset of the disease, and its violence; whereas in traumatic cases it goes on gradually increasing. The symptoms spoken to on Monday night were distinct from any description of tetanus I have ever seen. There was no doubt spasmodic action of the muscles on the Monday night, but there was, in my opinion, no instance of tetanus. There is a third description of tetanus, known as hysteria tetanus, but it is mostly confined to the female sex, and I never knew an instance of it having occurred in a male. There are poisons that will produce tetanus—aux vomica and strychnia. Strychnia and prussic acid are derived from nux vomica.

Cross-examined by Serjeant Shee: I have known spasms to arise from disease of the spinal cord. Any disease of the nerves proceeding from the spinal cord might produce tetanus. I agree with Dr. Watson, a writer upon the subject, that in four cases out of five traumatic tetanus begins with lockjaw. I also agree with him that it may arise from a great variety of trifling causes; but I do not think the concussion of the air from a musket-ball would be sufficient. In my book I have mentioned a case where a negro, who slightly wounded his finger, was seized with lockjaw immediately, and was dead in a quarter of an hour. That book was written when I was very young, and I consider that I have greater experience now. We are not so likely at an hospital to hear of cases of idiopathic tetanus, as they would be more likely to be treated by a physician. I know of a case at the London Hospital where the death was so sudden that it was attributed to strychnia, and the body was opened, but no strychnia was discovered. Syphilitic sores were found on the person of the patient. I do not think that irritation, drink, excitement, and exposure to the damp would so affect me of this description as to occasion lockjaw. Epilepsy is sometimes attended by contortions and spasms. There are instances in which death may arise from tetanus, and yet there are no morbid appearances after death. I do not know of any case where tetanus has been accompanied by nausea, flatulence, and other symptoms of indigestion.

Dr. Todd, examined by the Attorney-General: I am physician to King's College Hospital, and have lectured on physiology and anatomy. I have also lectured particularly upon tetanus and other diseases of the nervous system. I entirely agree with the last witness in his opinions upon the subject of tetanus. I have seen two cases of idiopathic tetanus. It is very rare in this country. I define it as tetanus without any natural causes, and apparently proceeding from internal and constitutional causes. I do not think the term tetanus ought to be applied to cases where it is the result of poison; but I should call it tetanus to distinguish the character of the convulsions. I have seen several cases of traumatic tetanus. The symptoms are exactly as they have been described by Dr. Curling, and in all cases gradually develop themselves. As to the duration of the disease, an acute disease would terminate in five days; but a chronic case might go on for nineteen days or longer. I never knew a case of shorter duration than four days; but I believe that some are narrated of shorter duration of the disease. Locking of the jaw is a very early symptom of the disorder. In cases of epilepsy some tetanic appearances are exhibited; but they are totally distinct from the natural malady. In all cases of epilepsy there is an abolition of consciousness for the time. In the case where epilepsy was accompanied by tetanic convulsions, consciousness would undoubtedly be utterly destroyed.

A discussion then arose as to the admissibility of the deposition of Dr. Bamford, who, it was stated, was too ill to attend. Evidence having been given of the fact, the deposition of the witness was put in and read. He expressed an opinion that Mr. Cook died of apoplexy, and that he gave a certificate to that effect. It also appeared that he attended the prisoner's two children, his wife, and a strange gentleman for the prisoner, and that all these persons died.

Dr. Todd was then further examined. He said: I am quite satisfied, from all I have heard, that death did not result from apoplexy or epilepsy. I never, however, heard of tetanus being caused by syphilitic sores, or from a sore throat. Strychnia and prussic acid would produce tetanic convulsions, but I have never seen a case of human death resulting from these poisons. I have seen animal life frequently destroyed by them. I should not like to give a human subject a quarter of a grain, but I am certain that a grain would destroy a human being. Half a grain would destroy a cat. The symptoms would be tetanic convulsions. I have generally administered it to animals in solution, and it generally begins to show its effects in about half an hour. It generally affects the spine. The head is thrown back, and the trunk is bowed in a very extraordinary manner. The legs are also stiffened by violent jerks, and when once set in it never perfectly relaxes, and fresh paroxysms continually come on. The legs are forced out of their natural construction, and the patient gives continual violent and rigid jerks. In the case where there is a larger dose, death would ensue in half an hour or three quarters of an hour. I consider there is no marked difference between the ordinary tetanus and that occasioned by the poison of strychnia. In the first the symptoms go on gradually developing themselves without any intermission; but in the case of poisoning by strychnia there are paroxysms, and the suddenness of the death in this case very much supports the opinion that it was the result of the administration of strychnia. I consider that in this case there were more of the indications of proper tetanus, and in my opinion the symptoms were those of tetanus from strychnia.

Cross-examined by Mr. Grove, Q.C.: The ultimate results of tetanus from strychnia and the ordinary tetanus were precisely the same. I have published some of my lectures on the brain and nervous system, and I adhere to the opinion I expressed in them, that the tetanic convulsions occasioned by strychnia are nearly the same as those of the traumatic character. Traumatic tetanus exhibits some variation in the symptoms. I consider, in the case of a post-mortem examination of the spine, that it would be important to make it as early as possible after death, in order that no fallacy might be created by decomposition having the effect of creating morbid appearances, which might deceive the examiner. If the spine were at all decomposed, it would be very difficult to observe with certainty whether any softening of the structure existed. I do not believe that granules such as have been described were likely to have caused tetanus in the cases where I have administered strychnia to animals, if they were touched, it appeared to have the effect of almost immediately increasing the spasms. In all the cases I found the heart empty, and very much contracted. Some years have now elapsed since I made the experiments with strychnia upon animals. I consider that death in these cases is the result of nervous exhaustion, caused by the violent struggles of the patient. I do not believe that strychnia produces apoplexy. If the patient died from apoplexy, I should expect to find one valve of the heart full of blood. Morphia, if taken to excess, would produce convulsions the same as strychnia. In cases of animals poisoned by strychnia the jaw is not fixed, although the muscles of the jaw are affected to some extent.

Re-examined: In cases of death from ordinary tetanus the heart would be found partially emptied only. In the case of tetanus from strychnia spasms would have the effect of emptying the heart. From what I have heard of the examination of the spinal cord on the second occasion in this case, I am of opinion that it was satisfactory, and that the period that had elapsed did not prevent the discovery of any disease that might have existed.

Sir B. Brodie, examined by Mr. G. James: I have been for ten years surgeon to St. George's Hospital, and I am in extensive practice. I have seen a great many cases of death from tetanus. Cases of idiopathic

tetanus are very rare in this country. In traumatic tetanus, in every case I have seen, the symptoms came on very gradually, and the contraction of the muscles of the back is generally one of the latter symptoms. The muscles of the extremities are affected in a much less degree than those of the neck and trunk, except in some cases where the injury has been in a limb, and the early symptom has been spasmodic contraction of the muscles of that limb. I do not remember any case of ordinary tetanus where the muscles of the hand were so violently contracted as in the case of Mr. Cook. In ordinary tetanus its course is rarely seen in less than three or four days, and is often protracted to a much longer period. I only know of one case in which the disease is said to have terminated in so short a time as twelve hours, and very probably in that case the early symptoms had been overlooked. I also never knew the symptoms of ordinary tetanus to last for a few minutes, then subside, and then come on again in twenty-four hours. These are the chief points of difference between the symptoms of ordinary tetanus and those I have described. I have never witnessed the effects of strychnia, but I know the nature of the symptoms, and I am of opinion that death in this case was not the result of either traumatic or idiopathic tetanus. I have never known a case where tetanus resulted from a sore throat or syphilis, or from epilepsy or apoplexy, and, I may say, or from any disease whatever, having regard to the course that the symptoms took.

Dr. Daniel, examined by the Attorney-General: I was for many years connected with different public institutions, and I have had occasion to see a great number of cases of tetanus, at least thirty. Among them were two cases certainly of idiopathic tetanus, and one of them terminated fatally. The symptoms appeared to me to be the same as in traumatic tetanus, but they were not so severe. I was not able to trace these cases to any particular cause. I agree with the other witnesses in the description they have given of the symptoms of traumatic tetanus, and I also agree with them that Mr. Cook's symptoms were different to those of all the cases that came under my notice. In ordinary cases the disease begins by uneasiness in the lower jaw, and lockjaw is one of the earliest symptoms. The clenching of the hands or the twisting of the feet are not at all ordinary symptoms of the disease, and I cannot recollect any instance where the disease lasted less than thirty or forty hours. I never in all my practice heard of a syphilitic sore producing tetanus, or of its being produced by apoplexy or epilepsy. In all the cases of tetanus that I have been concerned with the patient has been conscious to the last, and in every case the symptoms have gone on continuously and gradually, and generally commenced mildly. In my judgment none of the symptoms exhibited by Mr. Cook could be referred to traumatic tetanus.

Cross-examined by Mr. Grove: I do not recollect any case in which there has been a considerable interval between the paroxysms of the disorder. I am not aware of any case where irritation from vomiting has produced tetanic convulsions. I do not believe that in pure and ordinary tetanus there is ever any material difference in the symptoms. Tetanus produces death by exhaustion and by suffocation.

Dr. Solly, surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, examined by Mr. Welby: I have been lecturer and surgeon at the hospital for twenty-eight years, and have witnessed a great many cases of tetanus, and six have been under my own care. All the cases were traumatic with the exception of one, which was doubtful, from the slight nature of the wound and other circumstances. In this case the symptoms developed themselves more slowly, and were generally milder. I do not remember any case that terminated in a shorter period than thirty hours. The symptoms described in the case of Mr. Cook differ essentially from every case of tetanus in which I have been concerned. In cases of tetanus there is always a peculiar expression of the countenance which cannot be mistaken. It is a sort of grin, which when once seen can never be mistaken. The peculiarity in Mr. Cook's case is that, after the violent paroxysm of the Monday night, on the following day he was free from discomfort. This never occurs in the case of ordinary tetanus, in which, when once the symptoms commence, they gradually go on increasing in intensity until death takes place. I am also of opinion that the symptoms described are not traceable either to apoplexy or epilepsy, or any disease that I have ever witnessed.

MONDAY.

The court was again crowded long before the commencement of the proceedings this morning. The Earl of Denbigh and Lord Lyttelton were among the gentlemen who occupied seats upon the bench. The jury came into court shortly before ten o'clock, and were soon followed by Lord Campbell and Mr. Justice Cresswell, accompanied by the Recorder, the Sheriff, and Under Sheriffs, &c. Mr. Baron Alderson did not take his seat until about two o'clock. The prisoner was immediately placed at the bar. There was no alteration perceptible in his countenance or demeanour, and he took notes of several parts of Dr. Taylor's evidence.

Dr. Alfred Swayne Taylor, examined by the Attorney-General: I am a fellow of the College of Physicians, lecturer on medical jurisprudence at Guy's Hospital, and the author of the well-known treatise on poisons and on medical jurisprudence. I have made the poison called strychnia the subject of my attention. I have performed a variety of experiments with it on animal life. I have never witnessed its action on a human subject. I have tried its effects upon rabbits in ten or twelve instances. The symptom is, on the whole, very uniform. Half a grain is sufficient to destroy a rabbit. I have given it both in a solid and liquid state. When given in a liquid state it produces its effects in a very few minutes; when in a solid state, as a sort of pill or bolus, in about six or seven minutes. The time varies according to the strength of the dose, and also to the strength of the animal. It is first absorbed into the blood, then circulated through the body, and especially acts on the spinal cord, from which proceed the nerves acting on the voluntary muscles. The animal for about five or six minutes does not appear to suffer, but moves about gently. When the poison begins to act it suddenly falls on its side; there is a trembling, a quivering motion, of the whole of the muscles of the body, arising from the poison producing violent and involuntary contraction. There is then a sudden paroxysm or fit, the fore legs and the hind legs are stretched out, the head and the tail are drawn back in the form of a bow, the jaws are spasmodically closed, the eyes are prominent; after a short time there is a slight remission of the symptoms, and the animal appears to lie quiet, but the slightest noise or touch reproduces another convulsive paroxysm; sometimes there is a scream, or a sort of a shriek, as if the animal suffered from pain; the heart beats violently during the fit, and after a succession of these fits the animal dies quietly. Sometimes, however, the animal dies during a spasm, and I only know that death has occurred from holding my hand over the heart. The appearances after death differ. In some instances the rigidity continues. In one case the muscles were so strongly contracted for a week afterwards that it was possible to hold the body by its hind legs stretched out horizontally. In an animal killed the other day the body was flaccid at the time of death, but became rigid about five minutes afterwards. I have opened the bodies of animals thus destroyed, but could detect no injury in the stomach. In some cases I have found congestion of the membranes of the spinal cord to a greater extent than would be accounted for by the gravitation of the blood. In other cases I have found no departure from the ordinary state of the spinal cord and the brain. I ascribe congestion to the succession of fits before death. In a majority of instances, three out of five, I found no change in the normal condition of the spine. In all cases the heart has been congested, especially the right side. I have endeavoured to discover the presence of strychnine in animals I have poisoned in four cases, assisted by Dr. Rees. In one case I discovered some by the colour test. In a second case there was a bitter taste, but no other indications of strychnia. In the other two cases there were no indication at all of strychnia. In the case where it was discovered by a colour test two grains had been administered; and in the second case, where there was a bitter taste, one grain. In one of the cases where we failed to detect it, one grain, and in the other half a grain, had been given. The absence of any indication of strychnia in cases where it has been administered is accounted for by its being absorbed into the blood. It is in a great part changed in the blood. When administered in large doses there is a retention of some in excess of what is required for the destruction of life. Supposing a minimum dose, which will destroy life, has been given, none would be found. It is taken by absorption, and is no longer discoverable in the stomach. In analysing the contents of the stomach and intestines forwarded from Rugeley we sought for various poisons—prussic acid, oxalic acid, morphia, strychnia, veratrin, tobacco poison, hemlock, arsenic, antimony, and mercury. We only found small traces of antimony. I detected some antimony in the blood. It is impossible to say with precision how recently it had been administered; but I should say within some days. The longest period at which antimony can be found in the blood after death is eight days; the earliest period at which it has been found after death, within my own knowledge, is eighteen hours. A boy died within eighteen hours after taking it, and it was found in the liver. Antimony is usually given in the form of tartar emetic; it acts as an irritant and produces vomiting. If given in repeated doses a portion would find its way into the blood and the system beyond what was ejected. If it continued to be given after it had produced certain symptoms it would destroy life. It may, however, be given with impunity. I heard the account given by the female servants of the frequent vomiting of Mr. Cook, both at Rugeley and at Shrewsbury, and also the evidence of Mr. Gibbon and Mr. Jones as to the predominant symptoms in his case. Vomings produced by antimony would cause those symptoms. If given in small quantities sufficient to cause vomiting, it would not affect the colour of the liquid in which it was mixed, whether brandy, wine, broth, or water. It is impossible to form an exact judgment as to the time when the antimony was administered, but it must have been within two or three weeks at the outside before death. There was no evidence that any had been given within some hours of death. It might leave a sensation in the throat—a choking sensation—if a large quantity was taken at once. I found no trace of mercury during the analysis. If a few grains had been taken recently before death I should have expected to find some trace. If a man had taken mercury for a syphilitic affection within two or three weeks I should have expected to find it. It is very slow in passing out of the body. As small a quantity as three or four grains might leave some trace. I recollect a case in which three grains of calomel were given three or four hours before death, and traces

of mercury were found. Half a grain three or four days before death, if favourably given, and not vomited, would, I should expect, leave a trace. One grain would certainly do so. I heard the evidence as to the death of Mrs. Smyth, Agnes French, and the other lady mentioned, and also as to the attack of Clutterbuck.

From your experience in reference to strychnine, do you coincide in opinion with the other witnesses, that the deaths in those cases were caused by strychnine?—Yes.

Did the symptoms in Cook's case appear to be of a similar character to the symptoms in those cases?—They did.

As a professor of medical science, do you know any cause in the range of human disease except strychnine to which the symptoms in Cook's case can be referred?—I do not.

Cross-examined by Mr. Serjeant Shee: I was first applied to in this case on Thursday, the 27th of November, by Mr. Stevens, who was introduced to me by Mr. Warrington, Professor of Chemistry. Either then or subsequently he mentioned Mr. Gardner. I had not known Mr. Gardner before. I had never before been concerned in cases of this kind at Rugeley.

Mr. Serjeant Shee read the letter written by Dr. Taylor to Mr. Gardner:—

Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital, Dec. 4, 1855.

Re J. P. Cook, Esq., deceased.

Dear Sir,—Dr. Rees and I have completed the analysis to-day. We have sketched a report, which will be ready to-morrow or next day.

As I am going to Durham Assizes on the part of the Crown, in the case of Reg. v. Wooller, the report will be in the hands of Dr. Rees, No. 26, Albemarle-street. It will be most desirable that Mr. Stevens should call on Dr. Rees, read the report with him, and put such questions as may occur.

In reply to your letter received here this morning I beg to say that we wish a statement of all the medicines prescribed for deceased (until his death) to be drawn up and sent to Dr. Rees.

We do not find strychnine, prussic acid, or any trace of opium. From the contents having been drained away it is now impossible to say whether any strychnine had or had not been given just before death, but it is quite possible for tartar emetic to destroy life if given in repeated doses; and, so far as we can at present form an opinion, in the absence of any natural cause of death, the deceased may have died from the effects of antimony in this or some other form.—We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

ALFRED S. TAYLOR.
G. OWEN REES.

Witness: I think I was quite justified in coming to the conclusion that antimony was the cause of death. The quantity of antimony found in the body was no criterion of the quantity that might have been administered; it might have been merely the residue of what had been taken. If the deceased had taken quack medicines that contained antimony, the same result would undoubtedly have been apparent. We were told by Mr. Stevens that his son-in-law was in good health at Shrewsbury races—that he made no complaint of illness—that he was suddenly attacked by vomiting, and died, and there was, of course, a suspicion that he had not come by his death fairly, as there was no natural cause to account for death.

Serjeant Shee: In such a case as this, do you enlighten your judgment by all the hearsay evidence you can get?

Witness: I think it right to get all the information I can; but I do not allow my judgment to be influenced in any manner by what I hear. I consider it necessary to obtain all the information I can when I have to investigate a case of this description.

Cross-examination continued: We do not say that the deceased died from the administration of antimony; but we say that he may have died from that cause. I was present at the inquest upon Cook on the 14th of December. I heard Mills, Barnes, Dr. Bamford, and Dr. Jones examined; but I am not quite sure whether I heard the evidence given by Newton. I tried some of the experiments I have alluded to twenty-three years ago. These are the experiments I refer to in my book. I have made the last experiments since the inquest. I consider the experiments upon these rabbits, coupled with my knowledge of the nature and character of poisons for twenty-five years, to be satisfactory. A rabbit I consider to be an animal calculated for the purpose. I don't very much like operating in this manner with cats or dogs, because I consider it dangerous. I should rather decline trying these experiments with dogs or cats (A laugh). I was aware that the prisoner had purchased strychnine, prussic acid, and Bailey's solution, before I made my report, but we did not allow that fact to influence our judgment in the slightest degree.

The examination and cross-examination of Dr. Taylor occupied five hours. The chief point which Mr. Serjeant Shee seemed anxious to establish was that Dr. Taylor had varied in his opinion as to the cause of Cook's death. At first he supposed it to be a case of poisoning by doses of antimony; but now he agreed with all the other medical and scientific witnesses, that the symptoms which preceded death were those which result from strychnine.

Dr. G. O. Rees, examined by Mr. E. James, Q.C., said: I am a lecturer on materia medica at Guy's Hospital, and I assisted Dr. Taylor in making the *post-mortem* examination referred to by that gentleman, and he has most correctly stated the result. I was present during the whole time, and at the discovery of the antimony. I am of opinion that it may have been administered within a few days or a few hours of Mr. Cook's death. All the tests we employed failed to discover the presence of strychnine. I agree with Dr. Taylor as to the manner in which strychnine acts upon the human frame, and I am of opinion that it may be taken either by accident or design sufficient to destroy life, and no trace of it be found after death. I was present at the experiments made by Dr. Taylor upon the animals and at the endeavour to detect it in the stomach afterwards. We failed to do so in three cases out of four. The symptoms accompanying the deaths of the animals were very similar to those described in the case of Mr. Cook. I have heard the cases that have been mentioned in this court, and the symptoms in every one of them are analogous to those in the case of Mr. Cook.

Professor Brande: I am professor of chemistry at the Royal Institution. I was present at one of the analyses. We examined, in the first place, the action of copper upon a very weak solution of antimony, and we ascertained there was no action until the solution was slightly acidified by muriatic acid. The antimony was then deposited, and I am enabled to state positively that that deposit was antimony. The experiment was made for the purpose of testing the accuracy of the test that had already been applied, and it was perfectly satisfactory.

Professor Christison said: I am a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and professor of materia medica to the University of Edinburgh. I am also the author of a work on the subject of poisons, and I have directed a good deal of attention to strychnine. In my opinion it acts by absorption into the blood, and through that upon the nervous system. If strychnine were administered in the form of a pill it might be mixed with other ingredients that would protract the period of its operation. This would be the case if it were mixed with resinous materials, or any materials that were difficult of digestion, and such materials would be within the knowledge of any medical man, and they are frequently used for the purpose of making ordinary pills. Absorption in such a case would not commence until the pill was broken down by the process of digestion. In the present state of our knowledge of the subject I do not think it is possible to fix the precise time when the operation of the poison commences in a human subject. In the case of an animal we take care that it is fasting, and we mix the poison with ingredients that are readily soluble, and every circumstance favourable for the development of the poison. I have seen many cases of tetanus arising from wounds and other causes. The general symptoms of the disorder very nearly resemble each other, and in all the natural forms of tetanus the symptoms begin and advance much more slowly, and they prove fatal much more slowly, and there is no intermission in certain forms of natural tetanus. In tetanus from strychnine there are short intermissions. I have heard the evidence of what took place at the Talbot Arms on the Monday and Tuesday, and the result of my experience induces me to come to the conclusion that the symptoms exhibited by the deceased were only attributable to strychnine, or the four poisons containing it. (The witness gave the technical names of the poisons he referred to.) There is no natural disease of any description that I am acquainted with to which I could refer these symptoms.

The trial was again adjourned at six o'clock until next morning at ten o'clock. The jury were taken, as on the former occasions, to the London Coffee-house, in the charge of the officers of the court.

TUESDAY.

At ten o'clock this morning the prisoner Palmer was again placed at the bar. On the bench with the learned Judges were the Recorder, Mr. Horeman, M.P., Sir J. Ramsden, M.P., Sir John Wilson, the Governor of Chelsea Hospital, and the Rev. W. Upton Richards.

Dr. John Jackson said he was a member of the College of Physicians, and had recently returned from India, where he had practised twenty-five years. He had his attention directed to idiopathic and traumatic tetanus. In England idiopathic tetanus was rare, but not so rare in India. About forty cases of idiopathic tetanus had come under his notice in India. Idiopathic tetanus in India was equally fatal with traumatic, and was frequently found in children, both natives and Europeans. When it occurred it was generally on the third day after birth. It was not unfrequently occasioned by cold in that country. In infants idiopathic tetanus exhibited more marked symptoms of lock-jaw than traumatic tetanus. In adults there was no difference in the symptoms from traumatic. He had always seen the disease preceded by premonitory symptoms—as, for instance, a peculiar expression of the countenance, stiffness in the muscles of the throat and the jaw. Idiopathic tetanus usually proved fatal to infants in forty-eight hours; in adults, arising from cold, it was of longer duration, and might continue many days, going through the same grades as the traumatic form.

Cross-examined by Serjeant Shee: A patient was always uncomfortable before an attack of idiopathic tetanus came on. He would complain of the muscles of his neck, but his appetite would not be much affected. He might take his food up to within twelve hours of the attack setting in. He never heard a patient complain of want of appetite on such occasions. He had seen a case of idiopathic tetanus in which the first paroxysms were in bed.

By the Attorney-General: In an infant not more than six hours would elapse between the premonitory symptoms and the tetanic convulsions. In an adult from twelve to twenty-four hours would elapse, and sometimes more than that. The period between the tetanic convulsions and death would vary—perhaps from three days to ten. Death in two days he should consider early. That applied to traumatic cases as well as idiopathic tetanus. He had never seen a case in which the disease ran its course and terminated in death in half-an-hour.

Mr. D. Bergan, chief superintendent of the Stafford police, examined by the Attorney-General, said he attended before the coroner at Rugeley. On Saturday, Dec. 15, he searched the prisoner's house. He found there a diary. It was in a drawer in his surgery. He found other papers in the bed-room and other parts of the house. He put them all into one place in the drawing-room. He locked the drawer and put the key in his pocket. On the following day he endeavoured to make a selection from them in the presence of Mr. George Palmer, an attorney at Rugeley, and the brother of the prisoner. Eventually he packed up all the papers and gave up the idea of selection. On the following Tuesday morning he took them all away in a black leather bag and conveyed them to Stafford, where he handed them over to Mr. Hatton, the chief of the county police. The papers were then minutely gone through by Mr. Deane, a solicitor acting for the prosecution. Mr. Deane classified them, and copied a portion of them. They were then left with Mr. Hatton. While he was searching the house he went through the papers and saw what they were. He did not find a cheque purporting to bear the signature of Mr. Weatherby, a racing-agent; nor did he find any paper or document bearing Cook's signature, affecting bills of exchange, with dates, and acknowledging that such bills had been negotiated for the benefit of Cook, and that Palmer had had no benefit from them.

Mr. Henry A. Deane, a solicitor, was called and examined by Mr. James, Q.C.: He said he was employed by certain insurance companies to attend the inquest on the body of Anne Palmer, the prisoner's wife. The first time he saw Palmer's papers was at Stafford. They were in the possession of Mr. Burgen, the last witness. The papers were in a black bag, which was unsealed in his presence. He carefully examined the whole of the papers, for the purpose of giving those which were important to the chief superintendent, and of returning those which were immaterial to Mr. George Palmer. He had heard the witness Cheshire examined as to the documents Palmer wished him to attest. He found no such documents. He saw Mr. George Palmer after the papers were returned to him.

Cross-examined by Serjeant Shee: The firm with which witness was connected were the solicitors for the Prince of Wales Insurance Company. Inspector Field was employed by him to go to Rugeley. He was at Rugeley part of one day, and at Stafford three or four days. Field did not see Palmer while he was in Staffordshire. He was accompanied by another officer, named Simpson. He told witness that he had seen Palmer. Simpson was first employed by witness on this matter in the first week in October.

By Mr. James: Field was sent down to make inquiries as to the habits of life of Mr. Walter Palmer, of whose death the Prince of Wales Insurance-office had shortly before received notice. Also to inquire into the circumstances of a person named Bates, on whose life there had been a proposal for an insurance of £25,000.

Mr. J. Espin said he was a solicitor, acting for Mr. Padwick. He produced a bill for £2000, which was put in his hands by Mr. Padwick to get payment from the prisoner Palmer. (This bill was handed to Mr. Strawbridge, the manager of the Rugeley bank. He proved that the drawing and indorsement of the bill were in William Palmer's handwriting, but that the acceptance, purporting to be that of Sarah Palmer, prisoner's mother, was not in her handwriting. This bill was the subject of the action tried by Mr. Justice Erie, a few weeks since, when Palmer admitted in court that his wife, Anne Palmer, since deceased, had, in his presence, written his mother's name to the bill.) Palmer paid £1000 off the bill, and on the 20th of Nov. Mr. Padwick pressed the prisoner for the remainder. The bill was placed in witness's hands for the purpose of enforcing payment; and on the 12th of December judgment against Palmer was signed. On the 12th of November Palmer wrote to Padwick, stating that he sent a cheque for £1000, but he hoped it would not be presented until the 28th, which date it bore. That cheque was not paid. On December 8 Padwick received another cheque from Palmer, for £600. That was not paid. The last cheque was received a few days after the first was dishonoured.

Mr. Serjeant Shee briefly cross-examined the witness, but nothing material was elicited.

Mr. William Bamford, surgeon, of Rugeley, was then called, and examined by the Attorney-General: He first saw Cook on Saturday, the 17th of November. William Palmer called upon him to ask him to visit a friend of his, who was lying ill at the Talbot Arms. Palmer said that Mr. Cook had dined with him the day before, and had taken too much champagne. Witness went down with Palmer to see Cook. He asked Cook whether he took too much wine the day before, and he assured him that he had taken only two glasses. Cook was constantly vomiting while witness was with him. Witness prescribed a saline effervescent draught—a six-ounce mixture. On his second visit he prescribed pills for him, but he never saw him take any of them. On the Monday evening he prepared some pills, which he took to the Talbot Arms, and gave them to a servant-maid who was in attendance on Cook. He saw her take them up stairs. Those pills were of the same ingredients as those he had prepared for Cook on the Saturday and Sunday previous. Witness saw Palmer on the Tuesday morning. He was going down to see Cook, when he met Palmer, and he asked him whether he had seen Cook? He said he saw him between nine and ten o'clock that morning, and that he was with him for half an hour. Palmer asked witness not to go to see Cook then, and he returned home without seeing him. At a later hour of the day witness was going to see Cook, when he again met Palmer, who begged him not to go, as Cook was quiet, and he (Palmer) did not wish to have him disturbed. At seven o'clock Palmer called at witness's house, and requested him to go down to see Cook. Witness went; and that was the first time he saw him on Tuesday. He left the inn with Mr. Jones and Mr. Palmer. Palmer said he rather wished Cook to have his pills again, and he said he would walk up to witness's house for them. He stood by while witness prepared them. He prepared the pills in his surgery, and Palmer saw him weigh out the ingredients. He had some strychnine in his own private room, but not in his surgery. He put the pills in a box, and wrote on paper, "Night pills—John Parsons Cook, Esq." When first he sent the pills Palmer told him to put a direction on. Nothing more was said either by himself or Palmer about the direction. He never saw Cook alive after that time. Palmer took away the pills after witness had wrapped the box in a separate piece of paper and sealed it. The direction was written upon a separate piece of paper, and there was nothing written on the box itself. It was about twenty minutes past twelve at night that he saw Cook dead. The body was stretched out as rigid as it could be, and resting on the heels and back of the head. His arms were extended down each side of the body, and his hands were tightly clenched. Witness had given it as his opinion that he died from apoplexy. He filled up a certificate to that effect. Palmer asked him to fill up the certificate. He had the forms in his own possession. Witness told Palmer that as Cook was his patient it was his place to fill up the certificate. Palmer said he wished witness to do it, and he then did it. Witness was present at the *post-mortem* examination. After it was over Palmer said to witness, "We ought not to have let that jar go."

Mr. Thomas Pratt, a solicitor, of Queen-street, May-fair, was examined by Mr. James: He said he knew the prisoner Palmer. Their acquaintance commenced at the latter end of 1853. Witness obtained for him a loan of £1000. That was ultimately paid. That was about the end of November, 1853. In November, 1854, he was employed by Palmer to make a claim upon two policies on the death of Anne Palmer. He received £5000 from the Sun, and £3000 from the Norwich Union. The money was applied in payment of three bills amounting to £3500 or £4000, due on acceptances and loans obtained subsequently, after he had made the claims upon the policies. The whole of the money was exhausted except £1500, which amount was applied to Palmer's purposes. In April, 1855, Palmer made an application for a loan of £2000; but he did not recollect that he mentioned the purposes for which he required it. Witness obtained it on his bills for £2000, accepted by Sarah Palmer. On the 20th of November he held, and still had, seven or eight bills—that was, they were held by himself and his clients. Four were held by his clients and four by himself. There were two of these bills overdue in November. The total amount was £12,500, and they all purported to be accepted by Sarah Palmer, prisoner's mother. The bills were to be held over from month to month, and interest paid. The rates of discount were, with few exceptions, sixty per cent. In November last the interest on the bills standing over was due. He knew Walter Palmer, who died in August, 1855. Witness was instructed by the prisoner to make a claim on the Prince of Wales office for a policy held on his life; the amount claimed was £13,000. Sarah Palmer, whose name was on the bills, was the prisoner's mother, and witness frequently addressed letters to her at Rugeley on the subject of the bills. (These and several other letters were put in and read.) The letters Pratt addressed to Palmer reminded him that the bills which were about falling due must be renewed, as the money could not be obtained from the Prince of Wales office for at least three months. They spoke also of the exertions Pratt had made, and was making, to obtain a settlement of the claim on the Prince of Wales office, and in more than one instance Pratt complained that Palmer did not allow his mother to answer the letters addressed to her in reference to her acceptances. Towards the end of October Palmer paid him £250 in part payment of the bills. Witness said he must have another sum of £250 before the following Wednesday. Writs were threatened against Mrs. Palmer, upon which Palmer wrote impudently for time, adding that he would raise the money at any sacrifice. On the 6th of November he (Mr. Pratt) issued writs against Palmer and his mother. He sent the writs to Mr. Cramp, a solicitor at Rugeley. They were sued for £4000. On the 10th of November Palmer called upon him, and paid him £300. With £400 received before, that made £800. Credit was given him for £600, and £200 was taken for interest. Nothing positive was said about further payments, but something was said about his endeavouring to

make further advances as soon as possible. On the 19th Palmer called upon him again, and paid him £50 in notes and cheque, and told him he would receive £450 from Herring through the post. Subsequently he received a cheque from Mr. Herring for £450, which was through his banker. Afterwards he heard from the prisoner that Cook had died, and he promised to remit money the next day. He told witness at the same time that if any one asked him about Cook's affairs he was not to answer any questions before seeing him (Palmer). I received a letter from the prisoner on the 22nd November, informing me that Messrs. Weatherby would forward me a cheque for £75 for payment of the interest on the £1500 bills that were held over. I afterwards received a cheque for £75 on Messrs. Weatherby, but they refused to pay it. I afterwards received a letter from the prisoner headed "strictly private and confidential," in which he requested me not to give any information to any person as to whether Cook had had any money transactions with me. I did not know Mr. Cook, but I had a bill of sale executed by him upon the two horses, Polestar and Sirius, in September, 1855. It was security for a loan for £200 upon a bill of exchange that was sent to me by post. There was no drawer's name upon it at that time. The prisoner made all the arrangements about this loan and bill of sale, and I never saw the deceased in the transaction. I advanced a sum of £375 and a wine-warrant upon the bill for £500, and took the bill of sale as security. The prisoner requested me to send the money in a letter addressed to him at Doncaster, and I did so. I sent £300 in bank-notes, and a cheque for £75; but I took the precaution to strike out the words "or bearer," so that it would require the indorsement of Mr. Cook before the money could be obtained.

Mr. Stevens was here called, and the cheque for £375 was shown to him, and he said that the indorsement of Mr. Cook's name was a forgery. He always signed his name "J. Parsons Cook." The cheque was indorsed "J. P. Cook."

Mr. Strawbridge, the manager of the Rugeley Bank, was called, and having examined all the bills that had been produced, he said that the signature, "Sarah Palmer," to the whole of them was forged, and was not the handwriting of the prisoner's mother.

William Cheshire, a clerk in the National Provincial Bank at Rugeley, proved that the cheque for £375 was paid in to the prisoner's account.

Mr. Pratt, cross-examined by Mr. Serjeant Shee: I knew nothing of Cook at the time of the bill transaction. I had at the time a sum of £810 in my hands that belonged to the prisoner. Palmer wanted me to pay £190 more to a person named Sargent, which I declined to do without further security, and the prisoner then proposed the acceptance of Mr. Cook for £200, and he represented him as a man of respectability and substance. I consented to take his acceptance, and the prisoner thus obtained the £500 that he required. Mr. Cook paid the £700, and I returned him his acceptance. I wrote to him on the 13th of November, reminding him that the £500 bill would become due on the 2nd of December. I addressed the letter to Lutterworth.

Re-examined: The £200 bill became due on the 29th of June. It was not paid on that day, but Mr. Cook paid it afterwards.

Mr. John Armstrong, an attorney, practising at Rugeley, said: About the 12th of November last I was employed to recover a debt of £60 from the prisoner for a mercer's bill. On the 19th I sent instructions for a writ, and on the following day, by direction of the plaintiff, I went to the prisoner's house, and he paid me two £50 notes in satisfaction of the debt. He, at the same time, said he hoped he should not have to pay the costs of the writ.

Mr. John Wallbank, a butcher, at Rugeley, proved that on the 12th of November he was sent for to Palmer's house, and saw him there. The prisoner said to him, "Wallbank, I want you to lend me five-and-twenty pounds." I replied, "Doctor, I am very short of money, but I will try and get it." He replied, "Do, there's a good fellow, and I will give it you again on Saturday morning, as I shall receive some money at Shrewsbury." This was the week before Shrewsbury races. I lent him the money, and he repaid me on the day he had promised.

Mr. John Spilsbury, a farmer, living at Stafford, proved that he had dealings with the prisoner, and in November last Palmer owed him £46 2s. He called upon the prisoner casually on the 27th of November, and he paid him the amount he owed him. He paid him in bank-notes.

Mr. Strawbridge, the bank clerk, was recalled, and he said that on the 19th of November the prisoner had only £9 6s. in his favour. The last payment to the credit of the prisoner's account was made on the 10th of October.

Mr. Herbert Wright, solicitor, at Birmingham, said he had known the prisoner since 1841, and in November, 1855, he was indebted to witness's firm to the amount of £10,400. They had a bill of sale of his property. It was executed by the prisoner. The debt arose out of advances upon bills of exchange, accepted by Sarah Palmer, and drawn and indorsed by the prisoner. He assigned the whole of his property—race-horses and everything he possessed—as security for the payment of the money. The witness produced bills of exchange to the amount of £6500, bearing the signature of Sarah Palmer. During the month of November he was pressing the prisoner for payment of the money that had been advanced, and in the beginning of December the bill of sale was put in force. Witness was present, but he did not find or take away any papers from the house at Rugeley.

Cross-examined: He should probably not have objected to carry on the bills if the prisoner had paid interest. He never lent any money to Mr. Cook. He saw him, and offered to lend him some money, but the affair never assumed completion.

By the Attorney-General: These bills were discounted at the rate of 60 per cent per annum. If the prisoner had been able to continue to pay interest at that rate, the bills would probably have been renewed.

Mr. Strawbridge was then again called, and he said that the acceptances of Sarah Palmer to the whole of the bills produced by the last witnesses were forgeries.

The name of Mr. Weatherby was here called, but that gentleman was not in attendance.

The Attorney-General then intimated that he would put a few questions to Mr. Weatherby at the opening of the court next day; and he would also examine for a few minutes another witness; but his learned friend (Mr. Serjeant Shee) would have an opportunity of beginning his speech for the defence very soon after the commencement of the proceedings.

The court adjourned at twenty minutes past three o'clock.

WEDNESDAY.

At ten o'clock the prisoner Palmer was again placed at the bar. The proceedings commenced by the counsel for the prosecution calling Mr. Weatherby, the secretary to the Jockey Club, and other persons. Their evidence went mainly to prove that certain cheques and other documents, purporting to be in Cook's handwriting were not signed by him.

Mr. Francis Butler proved that Palmer paid him £40 after Shrewsbury races. He owed him £700, and said he had some money to receive shortly. He gave him a cheque for £250 on the Rugeley bank, but witness never got the money. He knew Mr. Cook's horse Polestar. It was worth £700 after it had won the race. It was worth more before the race, in consequence of its engagements.

(Continued on page 554.)

RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE IN AUSTRIA.—A few days since you learnt from me that an "unsatisfactory" reply had been given to the Protestant Consistory when it complained to Government of some of the recent ordinances of the Bishops; and the following further information on the same subject has now been acquired. The Consistory was told that, though the civil authorities could not prevent the publication of such ordinances, they would do all in their power to settle the matter to the satisfaction of all parties. Such a promise means neither more nor less than that a separate piece of ground will be allotted to the non-Catholics as a place of burial for their deceased relatives. M. Urban, the Rector of the parish of Matzleinsdorf, a suburb of Vienna, neither permits the parish hall to be used for deceased Protestants, nor the church bell to sound their funeral knell. The Rector of Raindorf, a village just outside the lines of Vienna, a few days since, refused to permit the church bier to be used for the corpse of a Protestant. In the very face of such occurrences the Roman Catholic hierarchy boasts of the spirit of toleration by which it is animated, and declares that it has no intention whatever to interfere with the privileges of his Majesty's non-Catholic subjects. A Vienna writer for the *Frankfort Post Zeitung* writes that family vaults in the general cemeteries of Vienna "exist only in the imagination of certain correspondents who, being foreigners, are not masters of the subject on which they write." The "private graves," as they are here called, are innumerable; the number of regular family vaults is 650 odd, and above 100 of them belong to Protestants.—*Letter from Vienna.*

LARGE POLYANTHUS.—Mr. Bennington has in his garden at Midsomer-place, Hounslow, in the Staines road, a polyanthus which he has raised from seed three years old, of the following extraordinary dimensions:—Circumference of plant, nearly 6 feet; breadth of leaf, 4 inches; length of stem and truss, 15 inches; circumference of flower-truss, nearly 24 inches; number of pipes in flower and buds inclosed in one truss, 150, all quite distinct to the eye of the observer. The circumference of the flower-stem, 24 inches.

THE LATE DR. CLUTTERBUCK.—(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)—In your notice of the late Dr. Clutterbuck you have assigned to him a date beyond his years. He was, as may be seen in my memoir of him in the "Medical Portrait Gallery," born at Mazaron, in Cornwall, Jan. 28, 1767. He was consequently not 91 years of age. At his decease he was the Senior Fellow of the Medical Society of London, a distinction now falls to the lot of your obedient servant, T. J. PETTIGREW, Onslow-crescent, Brighton, May 17, 1856.

STILTON CHEESE.—(From a Correspondent.)—Died, on the 14th inst., Mrs. Pick, Withcote Lodge, Leicestershire, aged ninety-six. At this lodge, in early life, Mrs. Pick and her parents were the original makers of that far-famed delicacy, "Stilton Cheese." The secret of its make was for some time confined to the Pick family, who were under an engagement to sell all the cheese they could make to Mr. Cooper Thornhill, innkeeper, of Sulon; and, being thus to be obtained of him, it received the name of "Stilton cheese," when it would have been more properly named Withcote cheese, being first made in the small village of that name, on the eastern side of Leicestershire. Stilton cheese is now chiefly made in the neighbouring villages: during the late war much of it was sent as presents to the Crimea.



"AND THE PRAYER OF FAITH SHALL SAVE THE SICK."—PAINTED BY J. PHILLIP.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

PICTURES IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION,
AND IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE FRENCH SCHOOL.

Our Fine Art Illustrations for the present week—three in number—are taken from the Royal Academy Exhibition, and from the third annual exhibition in London of the French School of the Fine Arts.

Our large illustration is one of four pictures contributed by Mr. John Phillip (Phillip of Spain, as he is called), and to our thinking the best of the four. It represents the interior of a church in Spain, and is entitled "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick." Very seldom indeed has sincerity of religious sure and certain hope been more faithfully depicted. Mark the skilful contrasts in the picture. Observe, also, the well-sustained and well-subdued tone of colour throughout. A young lady not inaptly described it, in our hearing, as "A Cabinet Altarpiece." It is not too much here to repeat of Mr. Phillip that he is one of the few contributors to this year's Exhibition who is seen to have made a gigantic

stride in his art. That "Gipsy Water-carrier of Seville" (No. 535) might be hung to no disadvantage by the side of the famous "Water-carrier" of Velasquez now at Apsley House.

Since Mr. Hook abandoned red-legged Venetians for fishermen on Cromer Sands and shrimpers in Babbicombe Bay, Mr. F. R. Pickersgill is left the leading representative of a particular school of art in this country that never failed to supply pictures that arrested and retained the attention of the well-informed and the uninformed. Young Mr. Pickersgill—for so we must call him to distinguish him from the Academician of the same name—never puts his pallet on his thumb without devoting his best talents and time to what he is about. He is never careless. You see that he never relies on mere unaided genius. Every part is studied. These qualities are particularly observable in the two contributions he has made to the present Exhibition. His subjects he has sought in the best of books in the Bible and in Shakspeare. His Scripture subject is from St. Mark—"And He took them up in his arms, put his hands upon

them, and blessed them." A great matter indeed to grapple with, and very fervently and feelingly rendered.

The Shakspeare subject is from "Love's Labour's Lost," and is hung as No. 17 in the Great Room. Shakspeare's own words will explain our Engraving:—

Biron. Lady, I will commend you to my own heart.
Rosaline. Pray you, do my commendations; I will be glad to see it

Longaville. I beseech you a word? what is she in the white?
Boyet. A woman, sometimes, an you saw her in the light.

Shot by heaven proceed, sweet Cupid.—Act ii.

There is not to our tastes a better picture from Shakspeare than this in the present Exhibition.

Our illustration from the French Exhibition is "The Water-cart," one



"THE WATER-CART."—PAINTED BY TROYON.—FROM THE LONDON EXHIBITION OF THE FRENCH SCHOOL OF THE FINE ARTS.



"LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST,"—PAINTED BY F. R. PICKERSGILL.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

of five pictures contributed by Constant Troyon, a pupil of Blooreux. Mr. Troyon received in 1838 the *third-class* medal for landscape; in 1840 the *second-class* medal; and in 1846 and 1848 the *first-class* medal. He has thus worked his way assiduously and deservedly to distinction. In 1849 he was made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour; and only last year he received, with the approbation of his countrymen, the *first-class* medal at the Universal Exhibition. As yet Mr. Troyon is too little known in this country, but his "Apple-gatherers," his "Landscape with Cattle on the Banks of the Seine," "The Lock," and "Going to Market" will introduce him honourably to all true lovers of landscape-painting in England.

Mr. Troyon's five works are appropriately hung together, and thus his style may be studied to the best advantage. This arrangement was in force at first in our own Royal Academy, and the plan has much to recommend it. We shall have something more to say about it in the observations we have to make on the French Exhibition and its influence on English art.

SIR ROBERT PEEL'S POSTHUMOUS MEMOIRS.*

THE circumstances under which these posthumous memoirs of Sir Robert Peel come before us are matter of notoriety with most of our readers. The great statesman, in the midst of the every-day harassing calls of active public life, had time to think of what was due to his reputation and to public opinion after death had severed his connection with the world. There are few statesmen that ever lived who have not, in the course of a long career, done many things calling for explanation or apology, but there is scarcely one who has met the requirement so freely, so unreservedly, as Peel in the revelations now partly before us. True, perhaps, there never has been an instance where a Minister of a constitutional Crown, like Peel, has seen the necessity, in the latter half of his career, of reversing the cherished policy of years upon two great questions of momentous import to the country, who has had the courage to do so, and also the good fortune to maintain a reputation superior to all the hostility and odium which such conduct invariably challenges—on the one hand, from disappointed friends, deserted in their need; on the other, from ancient foes, whom concession has strengthened but not conciliated. Peel did all this in the case of the Catholic Question and of the Corn-laws; and amongst the voluminous papers left behind him the correspondence and notes relating to these questions form the most prominent part. The whole of the numerous MSS. thus preserved as *pieces justificatives* were bequeathed by Peel to Lord Mahon (now Earl Stanhope) and the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, with full power to select for publication what portions they might think proper, "in the full assurance that they will so exercise the discretion given to them that no honourable confidence shall be betrayed, no private feelings be unnecessarily wounded, and no public interests injuriously affected, in consequence of premature or indiscreet publication."

Whatever be said of the qualities of industry and discretion displayed by the editors in the performance of the delicate trust thus reposed in them, they cannot, at any rate, be charged with undue haste in publishing. Nearly six years have elapsed since the great statesman died, and they have only now produced a single volume of 360 pages post octavo, containing memoranda and correspondence relating to a single transaction—that of the Catholic Bill, 1828-9. Two other memoirs—respectively on the subjects of the formation of Peel's "first Ministry, in 1834 and 1835," and of the settlement of the Corn-law—are announced to follow "after a certain interval in their chronological series." In explanation of the methodical dilatoriness, past and future, in their proceedings the editors state:—

Considering the perfect order and arrangement in which these and nearly all the other MSS. are found, it would have been easy for the editors to send them to press forthwith. That was not, however, their own opinion of their duty. Where the claims to an enduring renown are only few, or slight, it may be necessary to catch the popular favour as it flies. But in the case of a truly great statesman his fame has everything to gain, and nothing to lose, by well-considered delay in the publication of his papers. Such delay affords a proof that there are no party or personal motives to subserve; it allows the party spirit in all quarters to subside; it both induces and enables every reader to contemplate every question in a calm historic point of view.

This may all be very true and very sound philosophy; but at the same time, whilst we consider what is due to the dead, we should not forget the living; whilst we consult the claims of posterity and of history, we should not altogether overlook what is due to our own time; and who can be more deeply interested in the motives of a great statesman, involved by circumstances in a tortuous and exceptional policy, than the men who aided and the public who watched and applauded him? The very interest in such matters, too, except to the inquiring few, is apt to subside with the "party spirit" to which they gave rise; to disappear before the more engrossing claims of each new question of the day. How many, for instance, would at this day read posthumous papers, if such were to turn up, of Marlborough, of Bolingbroke, of Walpole, of Bute, or other statesmen who in their day engrossed the attention and divided the suffrages of the world? and, of those who read it, how many would be practically benefitted by the perusal?

The full term of a generation has elapsed since the date of the occurrences to which the present volume relates, and yet there are occasional suppressions, out of consideration for individuals. If the same period (lapse before the memoirs of the short and stirring Administration of 1834-5 are published, we shall have to wait another half-dozen years for them; and a continuance of the same reserve would postpone the memoirs on the Corn-law Question for ten years beyond that, each "in their chronological series." Let us hope that this snail's-march measure will not be persevered in.

What can be greater proof of the truth of the remark we have just made as to the evanescent quality of the "party spirit" which forms the life of political struggles than the disappointment which attends the perusal of this volume of memoirs upon the Catholic Question; industriously compiled and preserved by the greatest statesman of our age, and left behind him as a sacred legacy to his country? In this we write as we feel; we are not afraid to avow our opinion, although we are well aware that there are very many persons who will be disposed to denounce it as presumptuous and irreverent; very many critics who will be prepared to insist that these memoirs are the most valuable additions to historical literature which it would be possible for the most consummate wisdom or the most fertile imagination to supply. We do not deny that there are in the course of them many revelations of the intrigues of party and the conduct of individuals which are important in the interests of truth; neither do we dispute that the full confession of the doubts and fears which distracted the King's Government during a series of years upon this one great question of Catholic Emancipation, of their hesitating and uncertain policy, and of the disingenuous gloss with which they were frequently obliged to conceal their real feelings and apprehensions from Parliament and the country, are without their use. They teach us that there is but one right line of policy in public affairs, and that the straight and the just one; they teach us to think with humility of human justice and human wisdom, when we find, by the confession of one of the most disinterested and upright Ministers that ever lived, that in the case of these Catholic claims the King and the King's Government yielded to terror what they had long withheld, and would still, if they dared, have withheld, upon principle; it teaches us, it should teach all men, to mistrust their own judgment upon existing affairs and prognostics of evil when they find men like Peel and Wellington adopting a policy on such a question which they only considered "a choice of evils," induced by "an abnormal and unhealthy condition of the public mind in Ireland,"—a concession to agitation, as the only means of conciliating a sufficient amount of public support to resist open rebellion.

From a perusal of these memoirs what is plain than this position, that in all the earlier stages of this question it was never rightly understood by those who had to deal with it; that the ultimate issue to which all their measures tended was up to the very moment of the crisis as a sealed book to them; and that in what was to follow upon

that crisis they judged as widely from the truth as at any period of the story?

What was the state of affairs which, in 1828, impelled Wellington and Peel to take up the Catholic claims as a Cabinet question, with a view to settlement? The Seditious Assemblies Act, especially levelled against O'Connell and his confederates, had proved an utter failure, and was about to expire, and the Government, upon the advice of the law officers of the Crown, were afraid to renew it with such amendments as might make it more effective. The Clare election had just taken place—Mr. O'Connell, a Catholic, being returned by a tremendous majority, in spite of all the exertions of the landlords and of the Crown. "A prospect tremendous indeed!" is Peel's observation, echoing the words of Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald. In the natural course of events this one defeat would speedily be followed by others all over the country. "He must be blind indeed to the natural progress of events, and to the influence of example in times of public excitement on the feelings and passions of men, who could cherish the delusive hope that the instrument of political power shivered to atoms in the county of Clare could still be wielded with effect in Cork or Galway." In the midst of all these defeats and pressing dangers, Lord Anglesey, the Lord Lieutenant, was daily conferring with the Government as to the number of constabulary and military available for the repression of outrage, the probability of their remaining stanch, and the reinforcements which might possibly be sent to assist them from England. But Peel saw that the game was "up," and resolved to abandon an untenable position. Is it not lamentable that in so doing he should still have persisted in blinking the natural justice of the case; that for an instant there should not have flashed across his mind a suspicion that his previous policy had been a wrong one, wrong as respects justice and truth; a doubt as to the moral impossibility of a whole people being guilty of treason? But no; he maintained the justice of his old position, but conceded that position upon considerations of physical necessity. His letter to the Duke of Wellington (August 11, 1828), in which he unfolds his views upon the posture of affairs, is a remarkable document in many respects. We extract some of its most striking passages. He states:—

I have uniformly opposed what is called Catholic Emancipation, and have, reeled my opposition upon broad and uncompromising grounds.

I wish I could say that my views upon the question were materially changed and that I now believed that full concessions to the Roman Catholics could be made either exempt from the dangers which I have apprehended from them, or productive of the full advantages which their advocates anticipate from the grant of them.

He then goes on to say: "It becomes necessary to make your choice between different kinds and different degrees of evil," and "maturely to consider whether it may not be better to encounter every eventual risk of concession than to submit to a certain continuance—or, rather perhaps, the certain aggravation—of existing evils." One circumstance of "overwhelming embarrassment" is, that "the Protestant mind is divided, and nearly balanced" on the question; that "we cannot escape discussion;" that in the Commons a minority of four had been changed to a majority of six on the question; that "the majority of the House of Lords against the principle—looking at the constitution of that majority—is far from satisfactory." Upon the whole he states:—"I am ready, at the hazard of any sacrifice, to maintain the opinion which I now deliberately give—that there is, upon the whole, less of evil in making a decided effort to settle the Catholic Question than in leaving it, as it has been left, an open question." He adds a suggestion, the motive or reasonableness of which we must confess we are at a loss to appreciate:—"I must, at the same time, express a very strong opinion that it would not conduce to the satisfactory adjustment of the question that the charge of it in the House of Commons should be committed to my hands." He would rather give his support to it, and give it "with cordiality," out of office. In a later communication to the Duke (Jan. 12, 1829) he reiterates his request to be allowed to retire from office; adding, however:—

If my retirement should prove, in your opinion, after the communications which you have had with the King, or with those whom it may be necessary for you to consult, an insuperable obstacle to the adoption of the course which, upon the whole, I believe to be least open to objection under all the circumstances of the time, in that case you shall command any service that I can render in any capacity.

How slow are the best of us to perceive the advancing steps of "Progress"! Even Peel, with his contempt for the ultra Tories—"I care not," he says, writing to Mr. Gregory, "for the dissatisfaction of ultra Tories"—with his nice appreciation of the value of the support of certain "warm friends" of his party; "those warm friends being prosperous country gentlemen, foxhunters, &c., &c.—most excellent men, who will attend one night, but who will not leave their favourite pursuits to sit up till two or three o'clock fighting questions of detail, on which, however, a Government must have a majority;" with this "significant" hint before him, and acknowledged by him, "of the progress of public opinion upon this question," viz.: "that many of the younger members of the House of Commons who had previously taken a part against the Roman Catholic claims followed the example of Mr. Brownlow, and admitted the change of opinion, and that it rarely, if ever, happened that the list of speakers against concession was reinforced by a young member even of ordinary ability;"—with all these various suggestions to influence his judgment, Peel avowed that he conceded this question against his well-grounded conviction of its merits, and under pressure of circumstances which he could not, but would, control.

Another party in this hard-fought and anxious struggle now remains to be mentioned. "The chief difficulty," writes Sir Robert Peel in this Memoir (p. 274), "was the King," who, in a letter dated Nov. 19, 1824, to Mr. Peel, thus expressed himself:—

The sentiments of the King upon Catholic Emancipation are those of his revered and excellent father: from those sentiments the King never can, and never will, deviate.

George III.'s obstinacy upon this subject is well known; and, certainly, the following passage, in reference to the obstruction which he personally opposed to the progress of the measure, coming from a Minister of the Crown, reads a little odd. Peel writes (p. 60):—

But in the year 1812 that obstacle to concession which was opposed by the decisive veto of George III. was removed, in consequence of his incapacity for the exercise of the Royal functions, and the appointment of a Regent without restrictions.

To return, however, to the year 1829—to George IV. and his Ministers. The King gave a reluctant assent to the views promulgated by Peel in the letter previously referred to; and in the Royal Speech on opening Parliament (17th January, 1829) the announcement of an intended measure for the suppression of the Catholic Association was made concurrently with a recommendation to "review the laws which impose civil disabilities on his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects." What followed is so interesting in an historical point of view that we quote the passage at length—the more especially as an erroneous version of some of the circumstances has already appeared in a recent publication. After describing his resignation of his seat for the Oxford University, his subsequent rejection, on contest, in favour of Sir R. Inglis, and his election for Westbury—thanks to the patronage of Sir Manasseh Lopes—Sir Robert goes on to state:—

I took my seat on Tuesday, the 3rd of March. We had continued our deliberations in cabinet up to that time, and had agreed with perfect unanimity on the general outline, and indeed on the details, of the several measures to be proposed to Parliament. We acted under the impression that we had the sanction (the reluctant certainly, but still the complete sanction) of the King for our proceedings. Being anxious that there should not be a moment of unnecessary delay, I gave notice on the 3rd of March that I would on Thursday the 5th call the attention of the House of Commons to that part of the Speech from the Throne which related to the state of Ireland, and the removal of the civil disabilities under which the Roman Catholics laboured.

In the interim circumstances wholly unforeseen occurred, which appeared for a time to oppose an insuperable barrier to any further progress with the measures of which the actual notice had been thus given.

On the evening of Tuesday, the 3rd of March, the King commanded the Duke of Wellington, the Lord Chancellor, and myself to attend his Majesty at Windsor at an early hour on the following day. We went there accordingly, and on our arrival were ushered into the presence of the King, who received us with his usual kindness and cordiality. He was grave, and apparently labouring under some anxiety and uneasiness. His Majesty said that we must be fully aware that it had caused him the greatest pain to give his assent to the proposition made to him by his Cabinet that they should be at liberty to offer their collective advice on the Catholic Question, and still greater pain to feel that he had no alternative but to act upon the advice which he had received.

His Majesty then observed, that as the question was about to be brought forward in Parliament, he wished to have a previous personal conference with those of his Ministers whom he had summoned on this occasion to attend him, and whom he must regard as chiefly responsible for the advice tendered to him. He said that he desired to receive from us a more complete and detailed explanation of the manner in which we proposed to effect the object we had in view.

Upon this requisition from his Majesty, being probably most familiar with the details of the measure which I had to submit to the House of Commons on the following day, I proceeded to explain them to the King. I observed to his Majesty that the chief impediment to the enjoyment of complete civil privileges by his Roman Catholic subjects was the obligation to make the Declaration against Transubstantiation and to take the Oath of Supremacy as qualifications for such privileges—that we proposed to repeal altogether the Declaration against Transubstantiation, and to modify in the case of the Roman Catholics that part of the Oath of Supremacy which relates to the spiritual and ecclesiastical jurisdiction and superiority of the Pope.

On this reference to the Oath of Supremacy the King seemed much surprised, and said rapidly and earnestly, "What is this? you surely do not mean to alter the ancient Oath of Supremacy!" He appealed to each of his Ministers on this point. We explained to his Majesty that we proposed that to all his subjects, excepting the Roman Catholics, the Oath should be administered in its present form, and that the Roman Catholic should be required to declare on Oath his belief that no foreign Prince or Prelate hath any temporal or civil jurisdiction, power, superiority, or pre-eminence, directly or indirectly, within this realm. We added, that if the Roman Catholic was still required, before his admission to office or to Parliament, to declare his belief that no foreign Prelate hath or ought to have any spiritual or ecclesiastical jurisdiction, power, or pre-eminence within the realm, the measure of relief would be unavailing; that an effectual impediment to the enjoyment of civil privileges would remain unremoved.

The King observed, that be that as it might, he could not possibly consent to any alteration of the ancient Oath of Supremacy—that he was exceedingly sorry that there had been any misunderstanding on so essential a point—that he did not blame us on account of that misunderstanding—that he did not mean to imply that in the explanation which we had previously given to him in writing there had been any concealment or reserve on this point: still the undoubted fact was that he had given his sanction to our proceedings under misapprehension with regard to one particular point, and that a most important one, namely, the alteration of the Oath of Supremacy; and he felt assured that our opinions would be in concurrence with his own—that a sanction so given ought not to be binding upon the Sovereign, and that his Majesty had no alternative but to retract his consent, if the measure to which it had been given under an erroneous impression were *bona fide* disapproved of by his deliberate and conscientious judgment.

In answer to this appeal we expressed our deep concern that there had been any misunderstanding on so important a matter, but our entire acquiescence in the King's opinion that his Majesty ought not to be bound by a consent unwarily given to important public measures under a misapprehension of their real character and import. After a short lapse of time his Majesty then said, "But after this explanation of my feelings what course do you propose to take as my Ministers?" He observed that notice had been given of proceedings in the House of Commons for the following day; and addressing himself particularly to me, who had charge of those proceedings, said, "Now, Mr. Peel, tell me what course you propose to take to-morrow." I replied that, with all deference and respect for his Majesty, I could not have a moment's hesitation as to my course—that the Speech from the Throne had justified the universal expectation that the Government intended to propose measures for the complete relief of the Roman Catholics from civil incapacities—that I had vacated the seat for Oxford on the assumption that such measures would be proposed—that the consent of the House of Commons had been given to the Bill for the Suppression of the Roman Catholic Association, if not on the express assurance, at least with the full understanding, that the measure of coercion would be immediately followed by the measure of relief—that I must therefore entreat his Majesty at once to accept my resignation of office, and to permit me on the following day to inform the House of Commons that unforeseen impediments, which would be hereafter explained, prevented the King's servants from proposing to Parliament the measures that had been announced—that I no longer held the seals of the Home Department, and that it was my painful duty to withdraw the notice which had been given in my name.

The King put a similar question to the Duke of Wellington, who replied that he desired to be permitted by his Majesty to retire from office, and to make to the House of Lords an announcement to the same effect with that which I wished to make to the House of Commons. The Chancellor intimated his entire acquiescence in the course which the Duke of Wellington and I proposed to pursue. His Majesty was pleased to express his deep regret that we could not remain in his service consistently with our sense of honour and public duty. His Majesty said, moreover, that he could not be surprised at our decision, or blame us for the conclusion at which we had arrived.

Our interview with his Majesty lasted for the long period of five hours: there was uninterrupted conversation during the whole time, but nothing material passed excepting that the purport of which I have faithfully reported. At the close of the interview the King took leave of us with great composure and great kindness, gave to each of us a salute on each cheek, and accepted our resignation of office, frequently expressing his sincere regret at the necessity which compelled us to retire from his service.

A sudden change, however, took place in the King's intention. On the evening of the 4th he wrote to the Duke of Wellington, informing him that he anticipated so much difficulty in forming another Administration, that he could not dispense with the services of his present Ministers, and requested them to remain in office, intimating that, in so doing, they would be "at liberty to proceed with the measures of which notice had been given in Parliament." Both Peel and Wellington, on consultation, thought this, after what had passed, too vague, and a reference was made to the King in the course of the night, which brought full authorisation, in satisfactory form, to proceed with these measures. It was "for the purpose of silencing all cavil on this subject," writes Sir Robert, that in opening these measures on the following evening in the House he commenced his speech with these words:—

I rise as a Minister of the King, and sustained by the just authority which belongs to that character, to vindicate the advice given to his Majesty by an united Cabinet, &c., &c.

With this we must close. We have endeavoured to give an abstract of the more important historical features in a work which will naturally attract a large share of public attention. Further curiosity upon many matters of temporary and personal interest will be amply satisfied by a reference to the volume itself.

CRIMEAN HEROES AT CHATHAM.—To show the great interest which the Queen attaches to everything connected with the late war we may mention that immediately after her last visit to the hospitals at Chatham her Majesty desired that portraits of nine of those men whose cases most attracted her notice should be photographed for the Royal Scrap book. One hero, Corporal McMahon, of the 1st Royals—a fine-looking man, who has entirely lost the use of his left arm from a bullet which passed through his breast and shoulder-blade—is reported to have been as brave a man as any in the whole army, a volunteer in every forlorn hope, and a picked man for every arduous enterprise. Another handsome fellow, with a beard a young Guardsman would envy, John Dryden, of the 11th Hussars, received no less than thirty-one wounds at the memorable charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava. He was surrounded by Russian lances, and received from them no less than twenty-eight stabs in his arms, side, and back; besides having two severe sabre-cuts on the back of his head, and a frightful gash over the bridge of his nose. He was taken prisoner to Simpheropol, where his wounds were dressed; and, after passing three months in the hospital, he was carried some 1500 miles up the country, where he remained until he was exchanged at Odessa. Three men were photographed in a group, without so much as one leg among them. They seemed very healthy and happy, and occasionally raged together over the brick-yard amid the exclamations of their companions. Two of these poor fellows lost their limbs from frost-bite, the third was wounded by the splinters of a shell. One of them, Conner, of the 49th, has received a pair of mechanical legs—a present from her Majesty. With these he can cross the barrack-yard without the aid of a stick; but he finds it rather awkward to recover legs when he trips up. From the appearance of these poor men we may realise the frightful amount of human suffering that has been endured in the crowded wards in the Crimean hospitals. Imagine the case of Thomas McKavery of the 63th, who was wounded in the thigh by the fragment of a shell. The doctors say his case is a triumph of surgery: a piece of bone five inches in length was sawn out of his hip-bone. The wound is healed up, and, by the aid of a thick-soled boot, the poor man walks; but his wasted face and hollow eyes tell a most sad tale. Among the rest were two men (O'Brien, 1st Royals, and Lockhart, of the 31st) who were shot through the head, and yet are alive and well. In both cases the ball entered the eye and passed out at the back of the neck. The weight of the shot that passed through poor Lockhart's cranium is 1½ oz.—it is about the size of a billiard ball, and the poor fellow shows it with no small degree of triumph. We have had an opportunity of inspecting these photographs, which were taken by Mr. Candall and Mr. Howlett, of the Photographic Institution in Bond-street, and were much pleased with them. Had we not already presented our readers with so many scenes of the same character, we should have engraved one or two of the groups.

The Imperial Russian arms in cast iron taken from over the gates of the arsenal at Soujouk, in Circassia, have been sent to this United Service Institution by Capt. Spratt, R.N.

* "Memoirs of the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, Bart., M.P., &c.; published by the Trustees of his Papers, Lord Mahon (now Earl Stanhope) and the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. Part I., the Roman Catholic Question, 1828-9." Murray.

PLOVERS' EGGS.

AMONGST the delicacies of the table which the present season offers may be enumerated what are commonly termed Plovers' Eggs. Of these great quantities may be seen in the markets and poulterers' shops of the metropolis, to which they are sent from those districts in which the plovers abound. We should, however, observe that the plover in question is neither the Golden Plover (*Charadrius pluvialis*), which breeds in Scotland and Ireland, nor the Grey Plover (*Squatarola cinerea*), which is a winter visitant to our island, breeding in high northern latitudes; but the Lapwing or Peewit (*Vanellus cristatus*), one of our most attractive British birds, and very numerous in its favourite localities. The name of Lapwing (in French *Le Vanneau*) is evidently derived from its easy, flapping mode of flight, on ample and rounded wings, and its gracefully-varied aerial evolutions; while the additional title of Peewit, or Peewee (its ordinary provincial name), is a mere imitation of its reiterated note: in like manner it is called *Dikwhit* by the French.

The localities which the lapwing chiefly affects are hilly moorlands, wild heaths, extensive commons, and marshes or peat-lands; in these situations vast flocks assemble together, and remain from early spring to the close of autumn, each pair attending to their own nest and brood. On the setting in of the cold they retire from the interior of the country towards the open lands near the coast, and along the mouths of rivers, where fresh or saline marshes, fallow lands, and turnip-fields afford them subsistence. Here they disperse themselves as circumstances may require till the pairing season returns, when they wend their way back to their summer haunts. These observations particularly apply to such flocks as tenant our inland moors or heaths; for it must be remembered that the seaboard marshes—such as those of Romney, &c.—have their own colonies, and these remain stationary during the months of winter. On the contrary, as we have ourselves observed, the hilly, bleak moorlands of Derbyshire are deserted by the lapwings during the winter—and for a good reason: it would be impossible for them to find food when the hills are covered with snow, and the intersecting dales are buried beneath the drift. It is then that we miss the lapwing; but, as soon as the snows have melted, and the heather, the bilberry patches, and the broad sheets of wiry cotton-grass make green the mountain side, while yet in secluded hollows the ice-varnished snow lingers, then may the lapwings be seen, at first in small companies, and scattered far and wide, afterwards in greater numbers, uttering their mournful note of "peewee, peewee," as they sail along over the head of the solitary shepherd or adventurous wanderer. At this season, and also in autumn, the flocks wander far abroad, resorting like rooks to distant feeding grounds, and returning in the dusk of evening. Often, while traversing the roads and byways of the Peak district, as evening shadows closed around, have we watched the lapwings in columns, sometimes of considerable length, steadily wending their way over the dark slope of the moorland range, on their homeward return. But during the pairing season in spring, the breeding-ground of the lapwing—whether on the hill side, the wide low moorland, or tremulous turf-bog—presents an animated aspect. It is then that they exhibit the most extraordinary powers of wing, darting upwards, sweeping, or indeed apparently tumbling downwards, with abrupt turns, and sudden, unexpected, but most elegant evolutions; during these performances the vibration of the pinions produces a whizzing sound, distinctly audible as the bird flies overhead. It is by the males principally that these aerial displays are made, doubtless by way of recommending themselves to their newly-chosen mates, and under the excitement of exuberant joy; so the Arab youths, aspirants to fame, engage in the mimic combat of the jereed, before the tents of the fair, in order to gain favour by their marvellous skill and address in the management of their fiery steeds.

But the breeding-ground of the lapwing soon presents another scene. To joyful excitement succeeds a period of care. The females have prepared their rude and simple nests—a few stalks of grass or dried vegetable fibres, in some slight depression—and on these are their eggs deposited. Now it is that the males exert themselves by every artifice to draw away the intruder, be it man or dog, from the site of incubation. The female usually sits close, and, when roused up flies low, and to a short distance only, without uttering any cry. Not so the male—he is loudly clamorous, and by various stratagems endeavours to deceive. He dashes wildly about, often sweeping close round the intruder's head, then falling to the ground as if lame or wounded, and, fluttering a few paces before him, puts on such a semblance as would lead him, if unwary, to believe that the capture of the bird was easily within his power. On flutters the bird, strangely eluding the most strenuous efforts to secure it, till, having effected its purpose, it rises on triumphant wings and sails in a wide circle back to its expectant mate. We have seen, on more than one occasion, a lapwing entice a dog to give it chase, fluttering and limping within a few yards of its nose; and thus, after fatiguing the pursuer till fairly out of breath, suddenly rise, and strike it with a smart blow of the wing as it soared away. We have seen it nearly brush the hat of a man with its pinions, and have ourselves all but felt its stroke.

All these artifices, however, do not secure the nests of the lapwing. The eggs, as we have said, are delicacies in demand for the table; hence, therefore, they are collected in great numbers by persons well practised in the work, and who, being minutely conversant with the bird's habits, are not to be deceived by its stratagems. It is not to the clamorous and fluttering males, but to the actions of the females, that they chiefly direct their observation; they watch the birds as they steal in alarm from their nest, and, marking the spot, proceed to it, seldom in error as to its precise locality. "So expert (says Mr. Salmon, as quoted by Mr. Yarrell) have some men become that they will not only walk straight towards a nest which may be at a considerable distance, but tell the probable number of eggs it may contain previous to inspection; generally judging of the situation and number of the eggs by the conduct of the female bird, which, when disturbed, leaves its eggs and flies off to a short distance, without uttering any note of alarm." In some districts dogs are trained for the purpose of finding the eggs; and this would appear to be the case in Romney Marsh, whence, as Mr. Yarrell was informed by Dr. Plomley, two hundred dozen of plovers' eggs were sent to Dover in the season of 1839.

It must not, however, be supposed the searchers for plovers' eggs invariably proceed upon either of the two methods above noticed—methods which involve skill and knowledge. On the contrary, the common practice, at least as far as we have seen, is for the children and women of the cottages of the district to disperse themselves over the grounds which the birds frequent, and in which it is known that they breed, and institute a careful search as they quarter the ground, without paying any particular attention to the birds, whether male or female, which their incursion really disturbs.

It might be supposed, from this wholesale spoliation of the nests of the lapwing, that a general decrease in its numbers would, as a matter of course, soon become apparent; but this is not the case, for many nests, each containing four eggs, escape research; and in most cases there is reason to believe that, after the first loss, a second laying takes place. At the same time, as it regards our island generally, there has been during the last century a marked decrease in the numerical ratio of these birds; but this decrease is owing to the advancement of cultivation, to the reclaiming of marshes, wide commons, and turf lands; the characters of which, by inclosure and good husbandry, have been often completely changed. Speaking from personal knowledge, we are well acquainted with certain tracts which, in our boyhood, were stocked with lapwings, but over which, at the present day, not a single bird is to be seen, except perhaps a straggler. At a period not very distant the lapwing will no doubt become much rarer than it is at present, and the demand for eggs in the market will be chiefly or solely supplied from Holland, the Netherlands, and the wide marshes of the adjacent parts of France. At present, however, the London market receives the greatest proportion of plovers' eggs from the nests of our home-bred birds, especially from the fens, lowlands, and warrens, of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk; several districts in Essex, the marsh lands of Kent bordering the Thames and Medway; Romney Marsh, and similar localities along the Kentish seaboard. The season of collecting continues for about six weeks or two months, when the molestation ceases.

With respect to the average number of plovers' eggs annually received by the London dealers during the season, we have no means of coming to anything like a correct estimate. Every salesman makes his own contracts, and the transaction is not within the limits of statistics; but, although no general returns are, or perhaps can be, submitted to the inquirer, observation alone will serve to prove that the numbers are very great, far more so than might be supposed by any one who has not entered into the subject.

The flesh of all the plovers is held in high estimation for juiciness and its flavour—but that of the golden is of epicurean celebrity, while that of the lapwing is but little inferior. Like the golden plover, the lapwing is in season during the autumn and winter, during the months of which the markets are often abundantly supplied, the birds being received not only from our own marshes and fens, but also from Holland and the Netherlands, together with various wild fowl.

We read that at the famous feast of Archbishop Neville, in the reign of Henry IV., a thousand birds called egrettes or egrets were served in due state; and some have supposed that the species known to naturalists as the little egret (*Ardea Garzetta*), was the bird in question; but they have

been evidently misled by a mere name. The little egret (and the same observation applies to the great white heron) can scarcely be placed among British birds; indeed, it is of very rare occurrence on the adjacent parts of the Continent—Turkey, Hungary, the confines of Asia, and Northern Africa being its natural localities. On this account, for we cannot suppose that the egret ever did at any previous period habitually tenant our island, we must see if we cannot fix upon some other bird to which the term egret is applicable, and of which a thousand were procurable without much difficulty, while at the same time it was worthy of a place among the viands prepared for a sumptuous banquet. It is with little or no hesitation that we nominate the lapwing as the bird in question. Beautiful in form and colouring, the lapwing is furnished with an egret (*aigrette*) or long occipital crest composed of slender feathers, turning slightly upwards, and capable of being erected or depressed at pleasure; it is, in fact, an egretted bird, and one, moreover, which has ever been held in estimation for the excellence of its flesh.

This opinion was first, we believe, advanced by Dr. Fleming, in his "History of British Animals," and was adopted by Mr. Selby, and we hesitate not as to its correctness.

In the "Northumberland Household Book" the lapwing, or peewit, is called Wype, and is placed among the more recherché articles for the table. The term Wype is evidently the same as the Swedish Wipa, or Kowipa, and the Vibe and Kivit of the Danes.

The lapwing appears to have been held in as high estimation by the French in former days as by our own countrymen. Belon, in his "Portraits des Oyseaux," gives the following quatrain under the figure of this bird:—

Voy cy dessus le portraict du Vaneau,
Et le voyant pour la veue paistre;
Mais si tu veulx d'un bon morceau repaistre,
Il y a peu de meilleurs oyseaux d'eau.
(Behold, above, the Lapwing, drawn with care,
Its portraict well may gratify the eye;
And, should you wish to taste of dainty fare,
Scarce better bird o'er watery marsh doth fly.)

Like the plovers generally, the lapwing feeds on worms, slugs, insects, and their larvæ, especially such as tenant humid, oozy places, and fresh or saline marshes, fallow lands, &c. In the capture of worms it displays considerable address. Many it catches when they are wholly above the surface; others it seizes by the exposed end, while the rest is buried in the ground, and either draws them forth, or by its sharp pinch occasions them to writhe and emerge altogether. Dr. Latham says—"I have seen this bird approach a worm-cast, turn it aside, and, after walking two or three times about it, by way of giving motion to the ground, the worm comes out, and the watchful bird seizing hold of it draws it forth." It has indeed been asserted by some that the lapwing will beat the ground with its feet, so as to alarm the worm and induce it to make its appearance; but to this we yield no credence. No bird treads more lightly than the lapwing: its object is to surprise its prey, nor do we believe it to be capable of stamping with sufficient force so as to jar the miry or wet ground even in the slightest degree. This observation applies to Dr. Latham's supposition that by walking round the worm-cast it shakes the ground. The truth is that, after the mouth of its hole is disturbed, the worm becomes restless, creeps out, and is immediately seized.

From its beauty, the gracefulness of its actions, and its utility in destroying slugs and insects in their various stages, the lapwing is frequently kept in gardens, and will often become very familiar. It is amusing to watch it tripping over a dewy lawn or grassplot, ever and anon suddenly stopping in its course, attracted perhaps by some fresh worm-cast, or by the quick plunge of a worm into its retreat. Under these circumstances the bird requires protection, and a supply of food during the winter, especially if the ground be frozen. It will feed on finely-minced or scraped beef.

The lapwing is spread over the whole of Europe, and, as it would appear, of Asia also; it is found in India, on the plains between the Black and Caspian seas, in Japan, China, &c. Nor is it wanting in Africa, as Mr. Gould states that he has seen it in collections from the latter country. On the Continent it would appear to be far more decidedly migratory than in our island, for it is noted by Messrs. Dixon and Ross as occurring in great numbers near Erzeroum, where it arrives towards the end of March, departing at the close of November. In like manner it is a summer visitant to the borders of the River Karasu, or northern branch of the Euphrates, where it frequents swampy fields; and where another species of Vanellus and two of *Charadrius* (*Morinellus* and *Minor*) were also seen.—*Proceeds. Zool. Soc.*, 1839.

The natural number of eggs laid by the lapwing is four—their ground-colour is olive-green, marked, streaked, and marbled with blackish brown. But when the nest is robbed, the bird goes on laying, in order to make up the proper complement; hence the nest-seekers generally, we believe, suffer one egg to remain untouched, by way of inducing the bird to continue laying, till the last clearance is effected. When boiled, the white or albumen of the plover's egg becomes nearly transparent, and presents a tinge of blue.

The young when hatched are covered with down of an ochreous yellow mixed with brown. They run about under the assiduous care of their parents, who conduct them to soft and humid spots where food is easily obtained.

The colouring of the plumage of the lapwing is very beautiful, especially that of the male in his nuptial attire, when the black of the breast and throat is very deep and glossy; and the dark glossy green of the upper surface becomes extremely brilliant. The sides of the neck, the under surface generally, and the base of the tail are pure white; the latter being largely terminated with black; but the outside feather on each side is almost entirely white, upper tail coverts, chestnut; under tail coverts, fawn colour. Total length, thirteen inches; expanse of wings, two feet six inches.

Accidental varieties of a pure white sometimes occur, and also of yellowish white, with faint indications of deeper markings.

Our illustration is copied, by permission, from Mr. Gould's magnificent work on the Birds of Europe.

W. M.

ADDISON'S WRITING-TABLE.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

IN your remarks on the sale of the works of art, &c., forming the collection of the late Mr. Rogers, you observe, in speaking of Addison's Writing-table, that "Addison's only child, who lived to a great age, gave this very table to Sir Thomas Lawrence." This statement is not correct. Sir Thomas Lawrence first visited Rugby, the adjoining parish to Bilton, in the latter part of the year 1797, to attend the funeral of his father, Mr. Thomas Lawrence, who died at the residence of the Rev. R. R. Bloxam, D.D., who had married the youngest sister of Sir Thomas Lawrence. Miss Addison died at Bilton Hall, in the month of March previous, and Sir Thomas Lawrence was neither personally acquainted with her nor had ever seen her. After Miss Addison's death the library and medals at Bilton Hall, collected by Addison, were removed to London and sold; but the furniture at Bilton Hall, much of which had belonged to Addison, was not sold till the month of March, 1825. This was twenty-eight years after Miss Addison's death. At this sale I purchased Addison's writing-table. There were then living at Rugby and Bilton several persons who had been acquainted with Miss Addison, and some of these were able to verify the table in question as one Miss Addison used to speak of as a favourite writing-table of her father, and as having been used by him in writing papers for the *Spectator*, &c. A clergyman, living at Rugby at the time of Miss Addison's death, the Rev. J. H. C. Moor, late Vicar of Clifton upon Dunsmore, had on that occasion the overlooking of the papers at Bilton Hall. He informed me he found amongst them several of the original draughts of papers intended for the *Spectator* with alterations and corrections in Addison's handwriting. Soon after I had purchased the writing-table of the poet, Sir Thomas Lawrence was informed of the fact, and evinced an earnest desire to possess it. I was under deep obligations to him for many acts of kindness conferred by him upon me, and the only mode by which I could show my gratitude was by presenting the writing-table to him. I should not otherwise have parted with it.

Rugby. MATTHEW HOLBECH BLOXAM.

DESTRUCTIVE INUNDATIONS.—The French journals give distressing accounts of the inundations caused by the late rains, though they agree in stating that an improvement had taken place in the weather, and that the various rivers were beginning to subside, although slowly. On Saturday last the Seine marked five metres above the ordinary level. The works of the lock near the Mint were under water, and the tops of the piers at the Ponts d'Austerlitz, Notre Dame, Saint Michel, and des Saints-Pères, had disappeared. Above Paris a part of the plain of Ivry was inundated.

MARRIAGE OF DUMAS' DAUGHTER.—Mlle. Dumas, daughter of M. Alexandre Dumas, was married a few days ago, at the church of St. Philippe du Roule, to M. Peyre, a little man connected with the financial world. A great number of literary and theatrical personages were present on the occasion; and, at the celebration of mass, Roger, of the Grand Opéra, sang the "O Salutaris." It is said that M. A. Dumas, junior, placed the sum of 25,000*l.* in his sister's *corbeille*.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A special general Court was held at the Trinity House on Monday last, at which his Royal Highness Prince Albert was unanimously re-elected Master of that ancient Corporation for the ensuing year.

Prince Frederic William of Prussia arrived at Dover on Tuesday night, from Ostend. Count Bernstorff, Prussian Minister, and Colonel Seymour, received the Prince on his landing.

The King of Prussia was prevented by a slight indisposition from going to meet the Empress Dowager of Russia last week. She was received at the frontier by Colonel Manteuffel and the members of the Russian Embassy.

The 15th of June is spoken of at Paris as the day upon which the baptism of the Imperial Prince will take place. An article of law granting 400,000 francs towards the expenses has been adopted by the Legislative Body.

The coronation of the Emperor Alexander is fixed for the 24th of August. It will be in conformity with the preceding ceremonial of the same nature.

Mr. Gibbs, the tutor of the Prince of Wales, and who has hitherto had the charge also of Prince Alfred, will, for the future, be an attaché exclusively of the heir apparent.

The Grand Duke Maximilian of Austria arrived at Paris on the 15th inst. He was received at the railway station by Prince Napoleon, and immediately proceeded to St. Cloud, where he was received by their Majesties with all the honours due to a crowned head.

King Ferdinand of Portugal left Seville for Gibraltar on the 16th inst.

The banquets usually given on the day set apart for the celebration of her Majesty's birthday by the great officers of state will take place this year on Saturday next, the 31st inst., so as not to interfere with the outdoor rejoicings appointed for the 29th inst.

The King of Naples is preparing a written justification of his policy, to be issued in the form of a letter to the Austrian Government.

The Duke of Cambridge has consented to preside at the anniversary festival of the Royal Caledonian Asylum, to be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 3rd of June.

Prince Napoleon's visit to Stockholm is said to be connected with designs upon the hand of Princess Charlotte Eugénie, daughter of the King, and sixteen years of age. This union, and that of Prince Oscar with a member of our own Royal family, will, it is thought, quiet the fears of many as to the future of the kingdom of Sweden.

Earl Granville was the nobleman selected by her Majesty to dance with the Princess Royal in the first quadrille after supper at the State Ball last week. The noble Earl, as Lord President, enjoys a precedence above that of Dukes.

The Pope entered his sixty-fifth year on Tuesday last.

Prince Metternich entered his eighty-third year on the 15th inst. Next month the veteran diplomatist will take up his residence at a beautiful villa at Johannisberg, upon the Rhine.

The Premier, who never enjoyed better health, arrived in town on Friday, from Broadlands; attended the Cabinet Council on Saturday, at the Foreign-office; and went to Brompton, Herts, in the evening, whence he returned to London on Monday morning, to be present at the bidding for the loan.

It has been determined that Lord Granville, the President of the Council, shall proceed upon an extraordinary mission to St. Petersburg on the occasion of the Emperor of Russia's coronation.

Baron de Brunnow has presented to Louis Napoleon a letter from the Emperor of Russia which credits him on an "extraordinary mission" to his Imperial Majesty.

The King of Prussia, it is said, has invited Napoleon III. to visit Berlin this summer, and meet there the Emperor Alexander and Ferdinand Joseph.

The Queen of Spain has ordered the Count de Altamira, grand equerry, to go to Seville, to invite the King, ex-Regent of Portugal, to visit her at Madrid.

Count Rudolph d'Appony, the newly-appointed Minister from Austria to the Court of St. James's, accompanied by the Countess d'Appony and family, arrived at Chandos House at the close of last week from Vienna, to enter on his diplomatic functions.

The Duke of Brunswick has left his dominions on a tour to Vienna, Venice, Rome, and Naples.

The Duchess d'Orleans has left her residence at Eisenach for Soden, in Nassau, where she intends to pass some weeks in drinking the waters.

The Ambassador of Turkey and Madame Musurus gave a grand dinner on Monday last at the residence of the Ottoman Embassy, in Bryanston-square, to his Highness the Grand Vizier of Turkey.

The Countess Walewska, wife of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, has received from the Queen of Spain the Cordon of the Order of the Noble Ladies of Maria Luisa.

The Marquis Pas de Villamarina, Sardinian Ambassador at Paris, has been raised by the King of Sardinia to the rank of senator.

General Chesney and Mr. W. P. Andrew had an interview with H. H. Aali Pacha, Grand Vizier, on Saturday last, at Claridge's Hotel, regarding the Euphrates Valley route to India.

The refusal of the Grand Duke of Tuscany to conclude a new concordat with the Pope is reviving his popularity at Florence.

The Abbé Coquerneau, who accompanied the Prince de Joinville to St. Helena to bring home the remains of Napoleon I., has been summoned to Bordeaux, to await the arrival of the Legate who is to hold the Imperial Prince at the font.

The steam-corvette the *Reine Hortense* has been placed at the orders of Prince Napoleon, for his voyage of scientific exploration in the North Sea, which will extend as far as Spitzberg.

The Crown, in compliance with a memorial signed by creditors of the late John Sadler, representing debts to the extent of £250,000, has agreed to appoint Mr. Anthony Norris, of Bedford-row, London, as administrator for collecting the assets of the deceased.

Austria is about to offer to the Emperor Napoleon the ashes of the Duke de Reichstadt for interment beside his father in the Invalides.

Prince Oscar of Sweden arrived in Paris on Monday. He was received at the terminus with all the honours due to his rank, and went in the evening to St. Cloud.

Mr. Mechi, of Leadenhall-street and Regent-street, has made arrangements for allowing his assistants a half-holiday on alternate Saturdays, the services of an equal number being dispensed with on each Saturday throughout the year.

Excursion trips to St. Petersburg, 125*l.* per head, are being organised in Paris.

The *Times* contradicts on authority an Indian rumour of the intention of the Court of Directors to annex Hyderabad in the Deccan.

A proposition, originating with M. Charles Dupin, is before the French Senate, providing for the erection in Paris of an immense column, surmounted by a statue of the Emperor, as a memorial to the army of the East.

The Greek Government protests against the indefinite occupation of Greece, as intimated in the Conferences.

James Murphy and Thomas Dunn, who were convicted at the late special commission of being concerned in the murder of Miss Hind, were executed at Cavan on the 16th inst.

In consequence of the extent to which emigration is going on in certain parts of Belgium, public notices have been issued by the governors of provinces embodying a caution, and containing advice to those leaving their country.

Owing to the continued demand for silver for India, the total amount of specie and bullion shipped on board the *Para*, which left Southampton on Monday for Alexandria, was £539,242.

It is said that the Crédit Mobilier is about to lend 20,000,000 reals to the Spanish Government.

The boiler of the steamer *Nimrod*, from Liverpool, lying at Cork Quay, burst on Monday morning, and killed two engineers and four firemen.

The Swedish Consuls resident in Marseilles, Toulon, and Havre, will undertake the functions of Russian Consuls until the Government is able to complete its appointments of Russian Consuls at those places.

The spring fleet from the north of Scotland for Canada has taken out above 1000 passengers to Canada this season. Most of them are agricultural labourers and small farmers, whose friends, having gone out before, encourage others to follow.

Two workmen lost their lives at the Thirwood Colliery, Gloucestershire, last week. One by rashly going into a pit full of foul air, and the second in endeavouring to rescue him.

Various extravagant lottery and railway schemes having been lately announced in the French papers, a notice has been sent by the Minister of the Interior to the various editors to pay the greatest attention to such insertions, and only to publish the same after due inquiry as to their correctness.



PROGRESS OF THE GREAT SHIP, BUILDING AT MILLWALL, FOR THE EASTERN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

PROGRESS OF THE GREAT SHIP NOW BUILDING FOR THE EASTERN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

THE progress of this leviathan vessel excites interest akin to that of the Thames Tunnel, a wonder of the same locality. As you steam down the river, many are the objects on the banks to arrest your attention; and, although the domes of Greenwich Hospital are still striking objects, the chief attraction is "the big ship" now to be seen in progress of construction in the building-yard of Messrs. Scott Russell and Co., in Millwall, or the Isle of Dogs.

From the point of view chosen by our Artist for his Illustration, the appearance of the ship, stretching over long rows of buildings, is most extraordinary; and, great as is its present length, the vessel is still growing at both the head and stern, it requiring 50 feet at one end and 70 feet at the other—in all 120 feet to complete the work.

On entering Messrs. Scott Russell and Co.'s shipyard, the proportions of the ship are seen to great advantage, the form being to a great extent kept free from the forest of poles which form the stages used in ordinary shipbuilding. In the present instance the four poles, &c., used are rigged with ropes and stanchions composed of the best materials. A gang of riggers, under the direction of a boat swain, are constantly employed in looking after this part of the work; and so good has been the effect of this care, that up to the present time only one accident (and that arising from carelessness) has happened.

It is by no means a short walk round the ship, as may be readily conceived by the circumstance that when the vessel is completed there will be a promenade round the deck of upwards of a quarter of a mile. On looking at the solid form of iron before us, containing about 7000 tons, one cannot help ruminating on the immense labour of raising it from the bowels of the earth—in smelting—shaping the plates, and carrying it from Yorkshire to the present spot.

When we learn that this great ship is to be six times the size of the *Duke of Wellington* war-vessel, that it will be 18,500 tons register and 23,000 tons builder's measure; 680 feet long, 83 feet broad; depth from deck to keel, 58 feet; nominal horse-power—screw, 1600 horses; paddles, 1000 horses, which could be worked up to 10,000 horse-power; the draught of water-loaded, 28 feet—light, 18 feet; and that it will carry of first-class passengers 600, second-class passengers 1800—in all 2400—and troops with field equipments 10,000—we look with wonder, and inquire if the builders have not been guilty of similar oversight to that made by the far-famed Robinson Crusoe in the matter of his boat? This,

however, has been carefully considered by Mr. I. K. Brunel, whose plan is to place under the vessel two launches 80 feet by 40 feet, at 140 feet apart; the launches will communicate with an inclined plane leading to the river, to which the great ship will be run sideways to the water-mark, and then allowed to float. By this method there will be a portion of the ship (140 feet) left entirely depending on the strength of the construction for support.

—Having reached the deck of the ship, we perceive that it is tubular, after the plan of the Britannia bridge; and it is formed of two half-inch plates at the bottom and two half-inch plates at the top, between which are webs which run the whole length of the ship. The centre of the vessel is divided into eleven watertight compartments. The part below the water-line is provided with longitudinal cells, held together in the same manner as the parts above; in fact, the construction consists of two ships—a large one and a still larger. Descending from the deck is a considerable space, which will be covered, and made available as a promenade for the passengers when the weather is too bad to enable them to remain on deck; below this is a saloon 80 feet long, 36 feet wide, and 15 feet high; from this passages lead to the sleeping-berths, each 10 feet by 6½ feet, 7½ feet high and which are well lighted and ventilated. There are fourteen of these bedrooms on each side of the saloon; and the vessel consisting of three decks, we have eighty-four of these apartments in each division of the ship, which is distinctly separated from the other compartments. Down in the depths of the ship, so deep that a feeling of dizziness is caused by looking down, are the boilers, of which there will be ten: some are fixed; indeed, 120 feet is entirely completed with the exception of the fittings of the cabins. There is also room for 10,000 tons of coals.

Notwithstanding the large amount of the steam force provided, the ship will be provided with six masts; there will be twenty ports on the lower deck, each five feet square, to receive railway waggons. She will also have sixty ports, two feet six inches square, for ventilation; and an abundance of dead-lights. The lower ports will be ten feet above the water when the ship is loaded. At the stern will be provided the means of keeping various animals—cows, sheep, poultry; in fact, a regular farm-yard. We noticed fire-buckets here and there, all filled and ready for instant use; for, although the chief part of the materials require no such precaution, and the woodwork is rendered incombustible by Lieutenant Jackson's process, still the occasional dropping of a hot rivet amongst the shavings below renders this precaution necessary.

It is hoped that in twelve months this wonderful work will be ready to test

the possibility of steam conveyance to Australia and other distant parts.

The following details are from the new number of the *Quarterly Review* :—

It is said that ten water-tight bulk-heads, 60 feet apart, divide this leviathan ship transversely; whilst two longitudinally iron walls, 36 feet apart, traverse 350 feet of her length. If we could take Mivart's Hotel, and drop it into one of these; take Farrance's and drop it into the second; take Morley's, at Charing-cross, and fit it into the third; and adjust the Great Western Hotel, at Paddington, and the Great Northern, at King's-cross, into compartments four and five, we should get some faint idea of the accommodation to be afforded. Each compartment will be a distinct hotel, with its splendid saloons, upper and lower, of 60 feet in length, its bedrooms, its kitchen, and its bar. The "big ship" is destined, be it remembered, to carry 800 first-class, 2000 second-class, and 1200 third-class passengers, making a total of 4000 guests, independently of the crew. The total length of the vessel will be 692 feet. To make the capacity of these figures better understood, it may be stated that neither Grosvenor nor Belgrave square could take the *Great Eastern* in; Berkeley-square would barely admit her, and when rigged her mizen-boom would project some distance up Davies-street, whilst her bowsprit, if she had one, would hang a long way over the Marquis of Lansdowne's garden. She is the eighth of a mile in length, and consequently four turns up and down her deck would afford the passengers a walk of a mile. Her width is 83 feet, the width of Pall-mall; across her paddle-boxes her breadth is 114 feet; and if she had to steam up Portland-place she would scrape the houses on each side. This floating town will be propelled by three powers—paddle, screw, and sail. Her paddle-wheels, fifty-six feet in diameter, or considerably larger than the circus at Astley's, will be propelled by four engines. The screw is twenty-four feet in diameter, and the four fans remind the spectator of the blades of a monster. Its shaft is 160 feet in length, and weighs sixty tons. Thus the ship will be pulled and pushed in its course like an invalid in a Bath chair, and sails will only be used with a strong wind in the direction of her course—say a breeze going twenty-five miles per hour, for which she is prepared with seven masts and 6500 square yards of canvas. As speaking-trumpets would be useless aboard a vessel of the dimensions of the *Great Eastern*, a semaphore will be used to signal to the helmsman by day, and a system of coloured lights by night. The engineer will be communicated with by the electric telegraph. A standard compass will be placed upon a stage forty feet in height, and the helmsman will either read off the points through a transparent card, illuminated like a clock front, or the shadow of the needle will be projected down a long tube upon a card below, so as to avoid the necessity of the helmsman looking up, and to obviate the difficulty which would be felt in fog. Her ten anchors will weigh 55 tons; her 800 fathoms of chain cable 93 tons; and her capstan and warps, 100 tons: total, 253 tons of appliances for making her fast. Gas will be manufactured on board, and laid on to all parts of the ship, and the electric light will be fixed at the masthead. The operation of launching will be as great a novelty as the

vessel herself. Notwithstanding that her weight, when that moment arrives, will be no less than 12,000 tons, she is to enter the water broadside on, by means of an inclined plane, which is the reason why she is building parallel to the river.

It may be interesting to add a few details of the spot upon which this stupendous vessel is being built. The Isle of Dogs, a place which most Londoners have heard of, is however—although already a scene of busy industry—a place which has been but little visited except by those whose employment renders it convenient for them to dwell on the island, as it is called, and a small number who may be brought by curiosity or otherwise to this curious spot.

Having reached the Blackwall Railway station, and taking a peep, as we always do if time allows when in this direction, at the crowds of famous vessels and busy people from various lands who congregate in the East India Docks, we take a westerly direction; and, being provided with a map, we see by it that the Isle of Dogs is a large piece of land of a horse-shoe shape, surrounded by those parts of the Thames called Blackwall Reach, Greenwich Reach, and Limehouse Reach. The west part of the horse-shoe is intersected by two cuttings—one at the entrance of the West India Import and Export Docks, and the other the City Canal; those forming two water roads across the island; there are also the Blackwall road, and the Deptford and Greenwich road, leading to a ferry. Part of the district is seven feet lower than the level of the Thames, and some more of it level with high water mark. Our map, being seven or eight years old, shows no houses on the centre of the island, except a place called Chapel-house.

Thus informed we travel on, remarking the curious old carving of about the time of James I. which is above the entrance to Wigram's ship-building yard, and some quaint-looking houses with ornaments on them, which were probably in existence at the time when Queen Elizabeth progressed to Tilbury Fort. A sight of these remains of other days suggests many a thought of the changes in our commercial arrangements since that time. Crossing the bridge over the entrance to the West India Docks, and that over the City Canal, many persons will be surprised at the primitive appearance of the toll-gate which is placed at the entrance of the island. From here the embanked wall of the Thames—that wonderful work—is distinctly visible now, built on almost every portion either on or against it, with various shipbuilding yards and manufactories. The spire of the church, and houses of Cubitt Town, and the beginning of the buildings in its neighbourhood, give some idea of what will be the ultimate value of this site. The spot at night-time must be very lonely, in the middle of the marsh—the lights of the steamers, &c., passing along like will-o'-the-wisps in the distance.



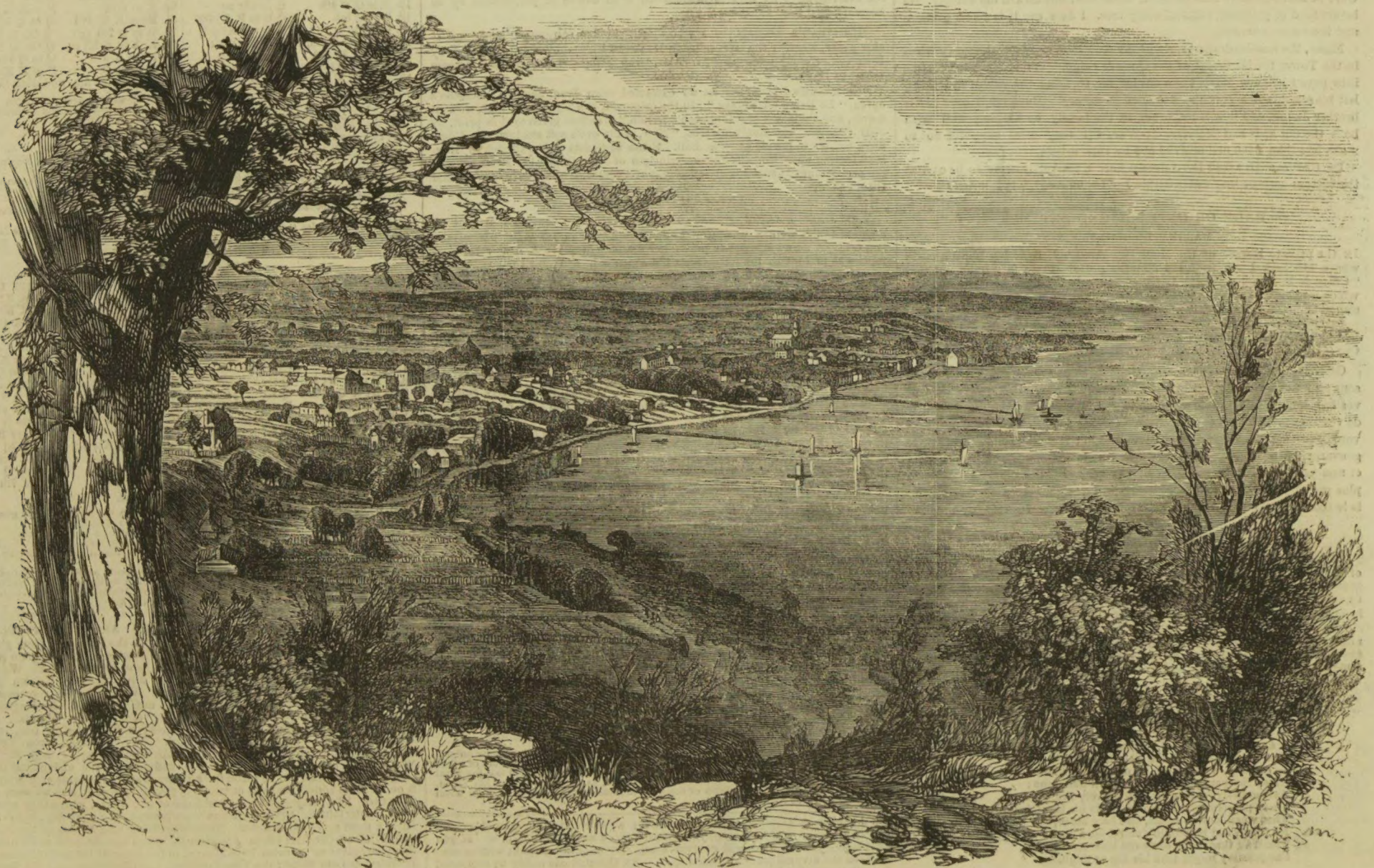
RECEPTION OF THE NEW GOVERNOR (KENNEDY) OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

EVERY portion of the Australian continent possesses more or less of interest to the people of Great Britain. Few families of the middle class can be found in England of which one or more members have not emigrated to Australia, and among the working class emigration has been going on, not of individuals, but of whole families; so great has been the attraction of the fields of gold in the eastern and southern districts of New Holland. Of those flourishing colonies almost daily accounts are looked for and received in the mother country. There is, however, one part of Australia of which, beyond its own limits, comparatively little is known, namely, the settlement on the western coast. Colonised in 1829, on a large scale, and puff'd beyond all reason, Western Australia, a few years after its settlement, was looked upon as a bubble that had burst; and, as it sunk in public estimation in England, so did the difficulties of the early settlers increase, until convicts were sent thither to assist the colonists, both by carrying out useful public works, and by the expenditure in the colony necessary for their main-

tenance. The country is now on the point of yielding corn enough for the wants of its own people—a point of prosperity, from whatever cause, not hitherto attained; and this, too, strange to say, in a land where the earth yields her increase with the greatest rapidity and ease. With such advantages, it is matter of regret that Western Australia has not become a corn-growing country, exporting her surplus grain to the sister colonies, and in return receiving a share of their golden harvest. Nor is it cereals alone which flourish in this district. It might also become a wine-growing country—the vine grows most luxuriantly, and produces grapes of the largest size in bunches often of five and six pounds weight. The olive is another tree the growth of which in Western Australia is remarkable, comparing it with that in the south of Europe. In the former the tree bears fruit in about seven years; while in the latter it has become a proverb that a man plants the olive, not for himself, but for his grandchildren. The fig-tree flourishes equally well with the vine. The sugar-cane also has been introduced, and might be largely cultivated, and with great advantage. Western Australia also abounds in the best of timber—the

jarrah, or native mahogany—for a quantity of which a contract has recently been taken to supply sleepers for the Adelaide Railway, a purpose for which it is remarkably adapted, as experience has proved that it may continue for years under water, or imbedded in the earth, without exhibiting the smallest sign of decay. The white ant, so destructive of softer woods, will not touch it; it also resists the attacks of the *teredo navalis*, and is, therefore, invaluable for shipbuilding. Although not equalling in beauty the finest Honduras mahogany, it far surpasses much of that used for furniture in England. In minerals, if Western Australia be not so fruitful as its neighbours, there is nevertheless plenty of iron-stone and lead: the latter being at present worked by a local company. Coal, also, has been discovered in one part of the colony, but has not yet been worked. The coasts of Western Australia abound with whales, and the fishery is being carried on, and is gradually increasing in extent. After many years of difficulty and depression, both agriculturists and traders are thriving. Men with capital emigrating to the colony, concurrently with labouring men, would be amply repaid for their outlay. The population of Western Australia numbers about 12,000,



PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, FROM MOUNT ELIZA.

not including the aborigines. The principal towns are Fremantle, the chief port of the colony at the mouth of the River Swan, with a population of about 3000; and Perth, the seat of Government, situated twelve miles up that river, and containing also about 3000 inhabitants. In climate it is the most favoured of the Australian colonies, being less subject to the hot winds which prevail during the summer in Victoria and South Australia. Its salubrity is attested by the health of its inhabitants and the absence of epidemic disorders. In addition to its many natural advantages, Western Australia has recently received an accession of strength and vigour in the person of Governor Kennedy, so well known by his activity and humanity in exposing the maladministration of the Poor-law in the Kilrush Union during the famine in Ireland, and whose able and energetic administration of the Government of Sierra Leone has been highly appreciated.

We have engraved the scene of the reception given to the new Governor on his landing in November last. We also engrave a general view of Perth, the seat of the Government.

Memorabilia, LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND ARTISTIC.

A little chink may let in much light.—OLD PROVERB.

NOTES FROM THE MS. MEMORANDA BOOKS OF THE REV. SIR RICHARD KAYE, BART., DEAN OF LINCOLN.

STEELE AND ADDISON.—Lord Bath or Granville said that Steele and Addison were excellent companions—the one at the beginning of the evening, the other at the latter end, for by the time that Steele had drunk himself down Addison had drunk himself up.

THE DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE, wife of John, used to receive the ladies in her bedchamber, then go to sit at dinner with the gentlemen, but eat nothing. When the cloth was drawn she returned to the ladies, and dined with them upon the dishes which came from the gentlemen's table.

WILKES.—One day Wilkes came to Dr. Tatton and desired to speak with him. He was shaving. Wilkes desired he might come up but for five minutes. During the time General Tatton came in, and the Doctor desired his brother to rid him of Wilkes, it might spoil his preferment. The General asked Wilkes if it was anything he could do, as his brother could not then see him. Wilkes said it was very odd he could not see him, he only wanted to ask him if he might not take the bark. The General then said he fancied he meant to call upon Dr. Turton. Wilkes said he did, and went away.

LORD NORTH.—Lord North generally sleeps as soon as he gets into a chair. He has a lowering countenance when out of spirits, his brows are rough and his eyes dim, and he is inattentive to everything about him, probably intense thought within. The King says he knows whether Lord North is in spirits from his first appearance, before he has well made his bow.

Dean Bradford Rector of Kirkby left very minute and accurate accounts of the value and rights of the Deanery of Wells, which are in Dr. Harris's possession. He lived with his coachman and coachman's wife, was not satisfied till his pockets were filled with money, and was then careless how it went. He used to stop his carriage and tell his coachman to make a back, upon which he wrote lest he should forget his thought before he got home.

The Lords may summon Lord Bristol in cases of breach of privilege. They have done so and require his being in his place. If the Usher of the Black Rod returns that he is not in the kingdom, they send their summons to the ambassador who may serve him with it, and he is bound to obey the authority of Parliament in any country. If he comes to England he either appears or is lodged in the Tower. When he appears, any Lord may ask him questions upon his honour, which may make him and the Duchess tremble. If he prevaricates it must be taken against him: equity justifies and demands this, whether he receive any sum between £10,000 and £14,000, without specifying for why. Some witnesses will probably appear who will bring a most horrid scene to light.

One day Lord Gower met the Duke of Grafton in the street. He said Lord Gower could not guess where he had been walking to. He has been to see Mr. Wilkes in the Tower. Lord Gower said your Grace is a man of too much rank and consequence in this country not to repent of this walk hereafter.

Charles Fox speaks pleasantly and earnestly about everything, even nothing. Was a week at Welbeck, sat next the Duchess, and never said a word. If she asked him if he would have fruit, he just answered. In helping to soup he puts the plate towards each person, but says nothing. Once he found three or four ladies he never saw, but talked incessantly. He is very fond of planting, talks of every tree. I dare say it is a new passion, and the reason obvious.

Mann, the woollendrapier, assisted Sir Robert Walpole with money when in the Tower the latter end of the Queen's reign. When Sir Robert came into power he gave Mann the contract for clothing the army, and Mann left his son £7000 a year and £150,000 in money. He made it over to his brother James, and it was continued in the family by keeping well with both the Colonels and Secretary-at-War, till they were supposed not to make less than £600,000 or £700,000 by this article.

Dr. Goodenough asked Dr. Johnson how a tea-kettle came to be cool at the bottom with boiling water within? He answered, "Is it a fact?"

RARE OR UNPUBLISHED LETTERS. MADAME DE MAINTENON.

In the private library of the Rev. Dr. Bandinel, Bodleian librarian—to whose kindness I am indebted for this notice—there is a book entitled "Office de la Semaine Sainte, Latin et Français," printed at Paris in 1701, which formerly belonged to Madame de Maintenon, and was by her presented to Madame de Nadaize, Abbess of Comberfontaine.

On the fly-leaf is the following beautiful note written by Madame de Maintenon, which breathes all the spirit of the zealous foundress of St. Cyr:—

Ce livre que vous trouvez trop magnifique pour une religieuse passera sous mon nom, et le vous le donne d'autant plus hardiment que le cognos votre esloignement pour le monde et votre fidelite pour l'accomplissement de vos vœux. Conservés, ma chere Abbesse, tout ce que Dieu a mis en vous, faites le glorifier dans votre maison; il vous met à la teste pour gouverner, pour edifier, pour lui rendre compte des ames qu'il vous confie, et non pour les dominer avec hauteur: vos obligations sont infinies; la plus part des Abbessees les ignorent; j'espere que vous serez leur exemple et le le souhaitez par la solide tendresse que j'ay pour vous.—MAINTENON.

NOTES.

CURIOUS INSCRIPTION ON A TOMB.—The following is a copy of an inscription on a tomb which stands alone in a larch plantation four miles from Macclesfield, and about one-third of a mile from Gawsorth Church, in Cheshire. Can any of your readers say where Johnson lived and died, and where he carried on his various professions?—AN OLD MACCLESFIELD SCHOLAR.

Under this Stone rest the remains of Mr. Samuel Johnson, afterwards ennobled with the grander Title of Lord Flame, who, after having been in his life distinct from other men by the eccentricities of his genius, chose to retain the same character after his death, and was at his own request buried here, May 5, 1772, aged 82.

Stay thou whom chance directs or ease persuades
To seek the quiet of these sylvan shades;
Here undisturbed and hid from vulgar eyes—
A wit, musician, poet, player, lies:
A dancing-master, too, in grace he shone,
And all the arts of Opera were his own.
In comedy, well skilled, he drew Lord Flame,
Acted the part, and gained himself the name;
Averse to strife, how oft he'd gravely say
These peaceful groves should shade his breathless clay:
That when he rose again, laid here alone,
No friend and he should quarrel for a bone;
Thinking that, were some old lame gossip nigh,
She possibly might take his leg or thigh.

PATRONYMIC SURNAMES FORMED WITH THE CELTIC AP.—We are familiar enough with those patronymic surnames which arise from adding s or son to a Christian name, as Adams, Adamson, Jones, Johnson, &c. Those with the Gaelic prefix Mac (Macgregor, Macdonald, &c.), are also household names to us. But those similarly formed with the Cymrian Ap are not so clearly distinguished, owing to the loss of the vowel in almost every case (Apreece is the only exception which occurs to us), and the change from P to B in many, and to G or F in a few instances. It may, therefore, be useful and amusing to give a list of such patronymics, so far as they are known to me; and your correspondents may perhaps be able to extend it, or clear up those cases that are doubtful. The formations here following admit of no doubt:—Ap-Adam becomes Badam, sometimes written Baddam and Badham; Ap-Edward becomes Bedward; Ap-Edwin, Bedwin; Ap-Einion, Benyon and Beynon; Ap-Evan, Bevan and Beavan; Ap-Ethel or Ap-Ythel, Bethell and Bythell; Ap-Eddw, Beddow, Beddoe, &c.; Ap-Henry, Penry, Perry; Ap-Harry, Parry; Ap-Hugh, Pugh, Pughe; Ap-Humphrey, Pumphrey; Ap-Howell, Powell; Ap-Liwyd, Bloyd, Blood, Floyd (and probably Blewitt, Bluet, &c.); Ap-Luke, Bluck; Ap-Lewis, Blews, Blewes, Flews; Ap-Owen, Bowen; Ap-Richard, Prichard, Prickett; Ap-Robert, Ap-Robin, Probert, Probin, Proby; Ap-Rosser, Prosser; Ap-Roger, Prodder; Ap-Roderick, Ap-Rodric, Ap-Rydderch, Brodrick, Brodrick, Brodie, Prydderch, Prytherch, Protheroe; Ap-Radulph, Bardolph; Ap-Rhys, Pryce, Price, Pryse, Preece, Apreece, Breeze, Brise, Bryce, Brice, &c.; Ap-William, Gwiliam; Ap-Watkin, Gwatkin. To these may be added the more conjectural names of Ap-Arthur, Ap-Atty, Parnter, Batty, Battie; Ap-Antony, Panton; Ap-Andrew, Bandy; Ap-Eli, Paley (Peel, Peele), Pelly, Bailly, &c.; Ap-John, Pigeon, Pidgeon; Ap-Rhyd, Pride, Proud (Praed), Preedy, Priddy, &c.—S.S.A.

THE FIRST SUGGESTION OF AN ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—On lately looking over a curious Latin poem on Electricity, I met with the following notice of an electric telegraph, which I should think was the first that occurs. The title of the work is "Josephi Mariani Parthenii Electricorum, libri vi., Romae 1767." I may mention that it is dedicated "Deiparae Virgini sine macula peccati originalis conceptae." The part to which I refer occurs in a note at the bottom of page 34. After showing that the electric current would proceed through a long metallic wire, rather than through a shorter but less perfect conductor, the writer goes on to say: "Filum autem ita sub terram demergatur, ut aliqua sui parte, in qua sit modica interruptio, emergat in domo amici. Hoc peracto, si exoneretur tabula, vapor, non via breviori per pavementum, in quo est machina, sed per longiorem fili ferretur, et apparebit scintilla in domo amici inter duas partes fili metallici eo usque pertingentes. Jam nullo negotio poterit quodam veluti alphabetum cum amico ex scintillis componi, et aliqua loquendi ratio condici." &c. The author of this experiment was Joseph Bozous, a Jesuit and lecturer on natural philosophy at Rome. If you think this worth a place in your "Memorabilia," I shall be glad to learn whether this is the earliest hint which occurs regarding an invention which has become so greatly developed at the present day, and which gives promise of a still wider circle of usefulness.—BIBLIOPHILE, Aberdeen.

QUERIES.

DESCENDANTS OF BRUCE AND WALLACE.—Can you or any of your numerous correspondents inform me of the direct descendants of Wallace or Bruce, or of the descendants of the Royal house of Stuart?—S. STUART.

[Robert Bruce left an only son, who reigned in Scotland as David II., and a daughter, Margery, who married Walter, the High Steward of Scotland. On the death of David, without issue, the Scottish throne was occupied by Robert II., son of Lady Margery and Walter the Steward. From him the crown descended regularly by inheritance until it came to our James I., the family being called Stewards, or Stuart, from the office above named. The present representative of the Stuarts, and also of Bruce, is our Gracious Sovereign Victoria. There are, of course, many collateral relations, but her Majesty is the true and lineal descendant of the Royal house. The Pretender's family ended in an illegitimate child. We are not acquainted with any descendants of Wallace; indeed, there appears no mention in ordinary histories of his having had children.]

CUSTOM AT PRESTON.—Will any of your readers inform me of the custom of placing the halberds at the door of the Mayor of the borough which is observed at Preston, in Lancashire, is common in any other place, and what is its origin and meaning?—F. G. R.

[Preston is one of the most ancient places in England, and probably occupies the site of the Roman station called Cocceum, on the river Ribbles, and the custom described perhaps dates back as far as the Roman licitor and fasces. The charter granted to the town by Henry II. confirms certain "unwritten privileges" then existing; and the "customale," supposed to date as far back as Henry I., enacts that "no sheriff shall intermeddle with any burgess of Preston," otherwise than in a plea of the Crown. Dr. Knerton, in his MSS. history of Preston, written in 1678, and now in Heralds' College, says, "they had likewise two other officers of note within the burrough, then styled Prætores, a title or office no doubt derived from the Roman time." The halberds are placed on each side of the principal doorway of the town-house of the Mayor for the time being. We have a sketch of one, the upper part being of brass, highly polished, decorated with the arms of Preston—a lamp, with the initials P. P., which means Prince of Peace; but are translated by the mobile vulgus

Proud Preston, poor people,
Low Church and high steeple.

This custom has been imitated by the modern Corporation of Blackburn, and it exists also at Lancaster. We understand a history of Preston, containing a full description of its ancient institutions, is in course of preparation by an accomplished local antiquary.]

ROUSSEAU'S DREAM.—Can you inform me, through your valuable paper, whether the air called "Rousseau's Dream" was composed by Rousseau or some other person? Also, who composed the words, if there were any?—H. W. P.

["Rousseau's Dream" is an air extracted from Jean Jacques Rousseau's opera, "Le Devin du Village." In the original it is a pantomime tune, without words, and the name of "Rousseau's Dream" was first given to it in print, by J. B. Cramer. The English words, "Now, while eve's soft shadows blending," were written to the air by Wm. Ball. Some organists of the Church of England (acting upon the old Puritan principle of "not letting the Devil have all the pretty tunes") occasionally employ it as a psalm or hymn tune.—WILLIAM CHAPPELL.]

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

THE LAST PERSON BURNT IN ENGLAND.—It may be useful to mention that a woman was burnt to death at Exeter in the latter part of the last century, for an attempt to poison her master's family. A near relative of mine was present at the scene after the execution, and saw the soap-boilers collecting the ashes of the pile for use in their manufacture. He was accustomed to say, in telling the story, that this was the last occurrence of the kind in England. There was also preserved, still more recently, in the cathedral of the same town, the skeleton of a woman who had murdered her child, the flesh being left in a dry state on the hand that did the deed. It tells a profitable tale of our fathers' horror of such actions, and of their comparative infrequency in those days. What became of this skeleton? I have the above from a person who saw it.—W. C., Bristol.

THE MONA OF THE ANCIENTS.—Although it is scarcely fair to trespass again on your valuable space, I would reply to your correspondent Conway Lochin that I am quite aware of the opinion of commentators on Caesar and Tacitus; but, as neither of the latter mentions two Monas, I still think that Tacitus believed Suetonius and Agricola to have invaded the Mona of which Caesar had heard. The existence of two islands identical in name in the same sea seems improbable. Ptolemy calls it Monocadia: may not this be the Gaelic Monadh—a mountain, as mountains appear to form a feature of the island. The derivation of Caernarvon seems very probable; but should it not be read Caer-yn-y-Fon—the City over against Mon (not Mow, which may have been an error of the printer)? But where is the Runic inscription of Kirk Braddyn?—FORDINGTON.

HOOKER THE ROMAN HISTORIAN.—In answer to the query of your correspondent, N. H. M., I am able to state that I possess the only known portrait of the historian N. Hooke. It is a three-quarters length, and well painted. He is drawn standing with one hand on a volume of his Roman History. Hooke was a zealous Roman Catholic. He resided for some years and died at Cookham, near my residence, Hedsor. His remains were interred in Hedsor Church without any sort of memorial, until my grandfather, Frederick, second Lord Boston, erected a marble tablet to him and his daughter. This tablet, with an honorary inscription, may be seen on the wall of the belfry of Hedsor Church outside. It is very possible that a copy of the contract may be found amongst the large number of books at Hedsor, which have not yet been accurately catalogued.—BOSTON.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. M. S.—The Unicorn in the Arms of England.—The Unicorn, an imaginary animal, supposed to have the head, neck, and body of a horse, the legs of a buck, the tail of a lion, and a long horn growing out of the middle of its forehead, was introduced into the Royal arms of England by James I. That Monarch adopted, as the supporters of his shield, the lion of England and the unicorn of Scotland, emblems of the union he brought about—Henricus rosas regna Jacobus.

* I subjoin an abridged translation:—Bury a wire under the ground and let part of it appear in the house of your friend with a small division in it. If you discharge a jar the fluid will proceed along the wire and a spark will be seen between the divided parts by your friend. An alphabet can easily be composed from these sparks, &c.

A. M.—For the origin of "April-Fool Day" consult Brand's "Popular Antiquities" and Jones's "Every-Day Book."

E. S., Tunbridge Wells, who has been polite enough to send Lord Pembroke's receipt to make port wine, alluded to lately by Lord Palmerston, should have forwarded his name and address.

MEMORABLES.—The extracts from Britton are in type, but to avoid errors in the very old French words it is desirable to compare them with the original. Why did you not send them to us?

SIGMA, Oxford.—Have the goodness to forward your name and address, and always head your communications "Memorabilia."

J., Dictionary.—Use of the word "kind." "Can any inferior in position be said to be kind to his superior?"—Kindness means benevolence, and it implies a quality which can be manifested in any relation of rank either by a superior to an inferior, or vice versa. The humblest can exhibit kindness in their way. The very

Daisy, by the shadow which it casts,
Protects the lingering dewdrop from the sun.

RECEIVED.—Lord Boston, D.D., J. M. P., Dr. Kennedy, F. R. S., J. D., Mayor, A. Subscriber, Quebec; R. F. L., Dublin; E. T. Relgate; R. G. B., Southampton; Rev. G. C. Stephen, A. Lover of Genealogy, H. H. Henslow, M.A.; J. Bradell, F. W. P., A. H. P., D. N., A. B. H., C. W., T. Butts, Birmingham; John Thomas, A. Parson, C. T. T., A. J. Morgan, S. W. J., M. W., T. D. Miller, Rev. W. Emmett, R. N. G., Pembroke House, Richmond, T. B. Union House, Abergavenny; Vincent De Boudry, A. R., W. Haacock, C. J., Raymond Delacourt, G. F. M., W. Boucher, W. F., J. T., J. W., C. S. S., Scrutator, A. M.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SWUEL.—If, in Problem No. 635, Black for his first move play P to KB 5th, the mate is so obvious that the merest beginner, we should have thought, could hardly fail to find it. White, of course, takes P with Q, and mates next move.

COZIO.—Upon no opening probably has so much been written as on the Bishop's Gambit, and at the present moment the opinions of the best authorities differ as to the validity of the received defence. Mr. Jaenisch and Mr. Lange say now that the check with the Queen is not advisable; Mr. Dubois, of Rome, one of the best players of the day, thinks the check may be given, if followed by the sacrifice of the Q Kt Pawn, as recommended by Kieseritzky. When doctors differ, who shall decide?

DORSET.—You are quite wrong.

J. W., Gosport.—1. The games shall be examined. 2. There ought to be no difficulty in establishing a good Chess-club for Portsmouth and Gosport.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 635, by Asbestos, T. Simpson, D. T., W. T. B., Mrs. Pillsbury, M. P., Melrose, E. B. of Manchester, Hum-Dum, C. L. Manning, W. H. Moss, D. D., N. C. A. B. E. P., Norwood, Levor, Robert Blizard, Exeter, are correct.

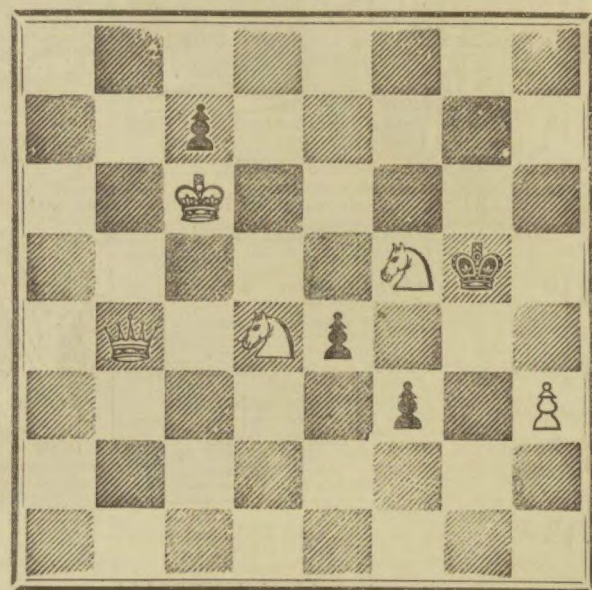
Any Amateur desirous of playing a Game by Correspondence may meet with a competitor by addressing a note to "John de Rixton," Wenden's Coffee-house, Market-street, Manchester.

* * * The majority of our answers to Chess Correspondents are postponed till next week.

PROBLEM No. 640.

By J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.



White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS BY CONSULTATION.

Two Off-hand Skirmishes played at the St. George's Club by the Rev. J. O. and Mr. BARNES consulting together, against Mr. STAUNTON.

(King's Knight's Opening)

WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (The Allies.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (The Allies.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19. Q to Q B 2nd	P to Q Kt 3rd
2. K Kt to KB 3rd	Q Kt to KB 3rd	20. P to Q B 5th (c)	B takes Kt
3. K B to Q B 4th	K Kt to KB 3rd	21. P takes B (d)	P takes K R P
4. Castles	K B to Q B 4th	22. Kt to K 4th (e)	P to K B 4th
5. P to Q Kt 4th	K B takes Q Kt P	23. Kt to K Kt 3rd	Q to K B 4th
6. P to Q B 3rd	K B to K 2nd	24. K to R sq	Q to K B 5th
7. P to Q 4th	P to Q 3rd	25. P to Q B 5th (f)	Q takes P (ch)
8. P to Q R 4th (a)	Castles	26. K to Kt sq	P to K B 5th
9. Q to her 3rd	P to Q 4th (b)	27. Kt to K 4th	B to K 2nd
10. B takes P	K Kt takes B	28. Q to Q B 4th	K to R sq
11. P takes Kt	Q takes P	29. Q to Q Kt 5th	Q to Kt 5th (ch)
12. P to Q B 4th	Q to her sq	30. K to R sq	P to K B 5th
13. P to Q 5th	Q B to K Kt 5th	31. Kt to K Kt 3rd	Q to K 5th
14. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Kt to Q Kt 5th	32. Q to Q 7th (g)	Q tks K B P (h)
15. Q to her Kt sq	K B to Q 3rd	33. K R to K Kt sq	Q tks Q B P (i)
16. B to Q R 3rd	P to Q R 4th	34. Kt to K 4th	Q to Q 5th
17. B takes Kt	P takes B	35. Q takes B	P to K Kt 3rd
18. K R to K sq	P to K B 3rd	36. Kt to K Kt 5th, and wins (k).	

(a) The opening on White's side is evidently played without much reflection. He has already sacrificed one valuable Pawn without any prospect of return, and we are not at all sure that his adversaries might not now have safely taken another.

(b) Very well played.

(c) This seems paying dear indeed to establish two Pawns in the centre.

(d) Eccentric; but surely this exposure of the King was too reckless.

(e) Better, perhaps, to have played P to Q B 5th and Q to Q B 4th, before moving the Kt to K 4th.

(f) White has given up so much that his only chance consists in maintaining an attack at whatever cost.

(g) Fearful, but his only hope.

(h) This move looked so good as to be irresistible; yet we believe it lost Black the game.

(i) Fatal error.

(k) For if Black play Q to R 5th, they lose her; and if R to K B 2nd Mate follows in four moves.

BETWEEN THE SAME OPPONENTS.

(Irregular Opening)

BLACK (The Allies.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (The Allies.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to Q 4th	P to K 3rd	17. B takes B	Q to K Kt 3rd
2. P to K 4th	P to Q 4th	18. Kt to K B 4th	Q to K Kt 4th
3. P takes P	P takes P	19. K R to K sq	Kt to K 4th
4. K B to Q 3rd	P to Q B 4th	20. K to R sq	Kt to Q 6th (b)
5. P takes P	K B takes P	21. K R takes P	P to K B 4th
6. K Kt to K B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	22. B to K B 6th (c)	Q takes B (d)
7. Castles	Castles	23. K R takes B	Kt takes Q Kt P
8. Q B to K Kt 5th	Q B to K 3rd	24. Q to K 2nd	K R to K sq
9. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to Q 2nd	25. Q to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd
10. Q to her 2nd	P to Q R 3rd (a)	26. Q R to Q sq (e)	Kt to K 4th
11. Q Kt to K 2nd	Q to Q Kt 3rd	27. R takes R	Q takes R
12. P to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K 5th	28. Q to K 2nd	Kt takes R
13. B takes Kt	P takes B	29. Q takes Kt (ch)	K to R sq
14. K Kt to Q 4th	Q B to Q B 5th	30. P to K R 3rd	R to K 5th
15. B to K 3rd	Q R to Q sq	31. Q to Q 5th	Q takes Q
16. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Kt	32. Kt takes Q	R to K 7th

And Black surrendered.

(a) White plays this opening much more carefully than the last, and the game altogether is better and more interesting, though anything but first-class Chess.

(b) The position here is not wanting in interest, and deserves a little attention.

(c) Tie move. Any other would have entailed more serious loss.

(d) Much better than taking with the K Rook, as the student will soon find on looking well through the variations consequent on that move.

(e) This does not look very promising, but play as they could at this point the game was gone. If K R to Q B 5th to avoid the fork of the Kt, then White would have won by moving Q to K 2nd. If they had moved the Rook to Q R 4th, White would first have played his Queen to K 4th, threatening mate, and then Q to Q Kt 4th, &c.

CHESS MATCH BETWEEN BIRMINGHAM AND WORCESTER.—On Tuesday week a deputation of five players from the Worcester Club played a match, of three games each, against the same number of Birmingham players. The result of the score was that Birmingham won twelve games, Worcester won two, and one was unfinished for want of time, the Birmingham players being a pawn ahead when it was abandoned. Worcester was represented by Messrs. Fanning, Gillam, Nicol, Wood, and Zachary; Birmingham by Messrs. Avery, Blyth, Freeman, Shore, and Tonks. Messrs. Avery, Blyth, and Shore won their three games, without losing one, against Messrs. Gillam, Wood, and Zachary. Mr. Freeman won two and lost one, playing against Mr. Fanning. Mr. Tonks, playing with Mr. Nicol, won a game, lost a game, and left one unfinished. We understand that arrangements are likely to be made for a return match at Worcester shortly; and it ought to be added, that one or two very strong Worcester players were unable to attend. The party met at the residence of Mr. Avery, where they were hospitably entertained. Several visitors were present during the day, which passed off in a most agreeable manner. The approaching anniversary of the Northern and Midland Counties Chess Association, which is to be held in Birmingham this year, gives an unusual local interest to the game at the present time. The President is Lord Ward; the Vice-President, Lord Lyttelton; and the Secretary, Mr. James Freeman, of 20, Temple-street.

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Chester, May 10th, 1855.

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